

Gonzalez may have lost majority

MURCIA (AP) — The Spanish Socialist Party would lose its one-seat parliamentary majority under a provincial electoral committee's decision Sunday to strip it of a contested seat. The Socialists said they would appeal the decision in court. In any event, it was not expected that the loss of the seat would affect Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez's ability to form a government when parliament convenes Nov. 21. Official provisional results of the Oct. 29 elections had given the Socialists a one-seat majority, with 176 of the 350 seats in the Lower House of Parliament. The next strongest contender, the Popular Party, holds 106 seats. The regional Basque Nationalist Party, which won five seats, has said it would cooperate with the Socialists whenever necessary. Voters in Spain elect deputies by stakes presented in 51 provinces and electoral districts. The original provisional count in Murcia gave the Socialists five seats, Popular Party three and the Democratic and Social Centre one.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية تصدر بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية «الراي»

Gorbachev backs E. German decision

DALLAS (R) — Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev told President George Bush in an informal message that he supports East Germany's decision to open its borders to the West, the White House said Saturday. The White House said the message was in the form of a cable and was delivered to Bush Friday afternoon. It also said that Gorbachev expressed his hope that the situation will remain calm and peaceful. The White House statement said that Gorbachev cabled Bush "to express his support for the decisions being taken by the new East German leadership." "He underscored the importance of the changes taking place there and expressed the hope that the situation will remain calm and peaceful." The White House did not say why it withheld word of Gorbachev's message until Saturday. Bush, who is set to meet Gorbachev off the coast of Malta on Dec. 2-3, was in Dallas for a speech to a business group and to dedicate a Vietnam war memorial.

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Cabinet eludes Muawad's effort

BEIRUT (Agencies) — A week after his election as president of Lebanon, Christian moderate Rene Muawad remains a leader without a government despite intensive efforts to draw his leading countrymen into a coalition cabinet.

Muawad is struggling to put together a cabinet of national reconciliation in the face of intense Christian opposition led by the man who has dismissed him as a Syrian puppet. Maronite army commander Michel Aoun.

Political sources said Saturday they expected Muawad to delay naming his team for at least one more day.

In a move aimed at consolidating Muawad's grip on power, the Central Bank said it would deal exclusively with the new administration once it was formed.

Until Muawad's election, the bank had been providing both Aoun's administration and a rival civilian cabinet with funds.

In a move to underline the decision the bank, which is in west Beirut, turned down a request by Aoun's interim military cabinet for a loan to buy fuel oil for power stations.

Central Bank sources said Governor Edmond Naim had decided to freeze all but essential payments until a new government was formed.

Muawad, whose election has been hailed by most of the world but who is reviled in the Christian heartland of east Beirut, has so far failed to induce the second strongest force in the Christian camp to change sides and support him, political sources said.

They said Syrian-backed Muawad sought to draw Samir Geagea, head of the 10,000-member Lebanese Forces (LF) militia, into his cabinet along with Muslim militia chiefs.

Meanwhile, George Saadeh, a leading Christian parliamentarian and head of the right-wing Falange Party, defended Saturday a peace accord worked out with Muslim legislators last month and opposed by Aoun.

His remarks underscored a split in Christian ranks that widened after the formal ratification of the accord and the election of Muawad.

Saudi Arabia's King Fahd said that he was confident Lebanon was moving towards peace after 14 years of civil war.

Saadeh spoke from his home village of Shubine, on the northern edge of the Christian heartland, in an interview broadcast by his party's radio station, Voice of Lebanon.

Other Christian officials admitted privately that no Christian politician based in east Beirut would join the proposed national reconciliation government.

Muawad is trying to form until a settlement with Aoun is achieved.

Saadeh said: "What we worked out was a major achievement safeguarding Lebanon's unity."

He was responding to Aoun's allegations that the parliamentarians were "traitors" for agreeing to an accord that does not include a fixed timetable for a total Syrian troops withdrawal from Lebanon.

"The accord gave the Syrians two years to withdraw from the Beirut area towards the (eastern) Bekaa Valley."

"The accord states that their mission and stay in the Bekaa is to be defined by an agreement between the Lebanese and Syrian governments," he said.

Aoun had said this was not enough. He wanted a deadline for the evacuation from the Bekaa as well.

Christian parliamentarians, including Saadeh had not returned to their homes in the Christian enclave since the Taif accord, fearing Aoun's wrath. Aoun controls the enclave with some 20,000 soldiers still loyal to him.

However, Shubine is one of several hamlets controlled by Falange party militiamen, rather than Aoun's troops. Saadeh moved there this week.

Fahd, who is a member of an Arab committee seeking to settle the Lebanese civil war, told the Saudi newspaper Okaz: "I cannot have any doubt... that Lebanon has found the right path."

He said: "Differences of opinion are natural," a reference to the problem of Aoun. "But I am fully confident that a comprehensive reconciliation and full agreement among all (Lebanese) will lead to the future to which we and the Lebanese look forward."

Morocco's King Hassan and Algerian President Chadli Benjedid are Fahd's partners in the Arab committee.

Fahd renewed in the interview the commitment of the three leaders to support Muawad politically and extend financial support to his government to help reconstruct the devastated country.

He said he believed peace would be restored "within a short period of time, because the Lebanese leaders have proved they are up to the level of responsibility."

In the West Bank town of Hebron, about 2,000 school students marched in the streets, clashing with Israeli troops who responded with tear-gas and rubber bullets, witnesses said.

An Arab reporter from Hebron said at least 23 students were detained.

In Qalqilya, some 500 protesters unfurled Palestinian flags and marched with flowers in their hands to the house of a youth killed in a clash with soldiers last week.

Arab reporters said troops wounded one protester, arrested 10 and imposed a curfew on the town.

Five other protesters were wounded in clashes elsewhere in the occupied lands, Arab reports said.

In the Gaza Strip town of Rafah, meanwhile, masked men armed with daggers and axes killed Samir Mohammad Asana, 37, in front of his shoe shop in Rafah's marketplace, journalists and Israeli radio said.

At least 2,000 students marched through the centre of Hebron chanting nationalist slogans after examinations marking the end of the school year.

Leaflets signed by the uprising underground leadership were distributed overnight calling for order during the examinations themselves but mass protest around the Nov. 15 anniversary of last year's declaration of Palestinian independence.

In a gruesome sight on the uprising, a Gaza Strip family who went to court to recover the body of a son shot dead by the army five months ago has refused to accept the corpse delivered because its head and limbs were missing.



NAMIBIANS VOTE: Voters line up in a coloured (mixed-race) township outside Windhoek to cast their votes in Namibia's independence elections. Balloting ended Saturday and final results are not expected before Nov. 13 or 14 (see story on page 8).

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6 shot and wounded in W. Bank

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Israeli soldiers shot and wounded at least six Palestinian protesters in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip and unknown assailants killed a Palestinian suspected of collaborating with the Israeli occupation authorities.

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An Israeli military court has indicted 200 Palestinian activists on multiple charges of murder, kidnapping and other crimes, Israel Radio said.

It was the second time since the outbreak of the uprising that Israel has brought such a high number of indictments simultaneously against uprising activists.

Among those indicted was Sheikh Ahmad Yassin, 52, the founder of the Islamic Resistance Movement (Hamas).

Yassin and hundreds of his supporters were arrested by Israeli forces May 22, during massive raids by Israeli troops in the Gaza Strip.

Among the murders the Hamas members are accused of taking part in or planning are those of two Israeli soldiers, Avi Sasportas, who disappeared in February, and Elan Saadon, last seen on May 3.

Sasportas's body was found on May 7. Saadon's body has not been found, but the army informed his family this week that he believed he too had been killed.

A year ago, some 300 Palestinian activists were indicted after the so-called popular committees, the local leadership cells of the uprising, were outlawed. Hamas was outlawed in September.

Yassin founded Hamas at the outbreak of the uprising. It has widespread support in the Gaza Strip.

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Israeli lawyer Felicia Langer, representing the family of Mohammad Abu Nasr, said Saturday military officials told her the head was removed for identification by dental records but not explain why both arms and a leg were missing.

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King, Cabinet review elections

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Saturday chaired a cabinet session and expressed satisfaction with last week's parliamentary elections as well as the awareness that the people demonstrated in the process.

The King also gave directives to the Cabinet on issues of concern to the public and the country.

The Cabinet discussions dealt with various aspects of the current phase. King Hussein earlier conferred for some time with Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker.

Dodgers amnestied
AMMAN (Petra) — A Royal Decree has been issued endorsing a Cabinet decision to reduce by half prison sentences passed on 471 recruits who had dodged military service. The amnesty comes on the occasion of His Majesty King Hussein's birthday anniversary.

One seventh E. Germans given visa to visit West

BERLIN (AP) — East Germans flooded West for visits Saturday, as demonstrators chipped holes in the Berlin Wall and West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl announced an upcoming meeting with East Germany's Communist leader.

East Germany's official news agency ADN said more than 2.7 million travel visas — approximately one for every seven East Germans — had been handed out to people wanting to visit the West since Thursday, when East Germany opened its borders.

Soviet hunters gathered up pieces of the 28-year-old Berlin Wall, once a grim, heavily fortified barrier that East Germans tried to cross. A new crossing in the wall was opened Saturday, at Bernauer Strasse.

An impromptu street festival formed in Berlin, drawing thousands of curious West Germans and an estimated 10,000 East Germans.

Hundreds of thousands of East Germans crossed into the West at other points along the border in one of the largest single-day movements of people in post-war European history. Thousands more waited in line Saturday on the East German side of the border for their chance to visit their capitalist neighbour.

In Bonn, the West German Interior Ministry said early Saturday that 140,000 East Germans had arrived overnight. West German border police said East German cars were backed up for 40 kilometres at the crossing near Helmstedt, West Germany.

Most of the East Germans said they were planning to return after making long-awaited visits to the West, the police said.

ADN said Kohl and East German Communist Party chief Egon Krenz spoke by telephone Saturday about economic relations between the two countries and other matters. Kohl said he renewed his offer of heavy financial support if East Germany makes necessary reforms, including free elections.

Kohl announced he would be meeting with Krenz to discuss the historic developments in the Communist country. No exact date was set, but Kohl said it would be soon.

Kohl also said he was in "constant contact" with Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, and that he has spoken with U.S. President George Bush as well.

Bargain-hunting East Germans flooded the streets of West Berlin brought joy to shopkeepers and store managers — at least to some of them.

"They're buying the cheaper stuff," said Berthold Goeryens, manager of a cut-price clothing store. "For me, it will probably be the best day this year, but the more expensive places won't do much business."

Other shop assistants and managers agreed.

A few lucky visitors had been given cash by West German friends or relatives, but many seemed happy just to spend their money at the steaming sausage stands or in cafes.

Cinemas offered cut prices to "our friends from the East" and free soup kitchens were set up in the streets to offer people food.

Shop assistants used to demanding and complaining customers were impressed by their new clients.

"They are very disciplined, very polite," said Goeryens. "Not like the ones over here. But who knows? If they get used to it, they'll probably end up being as rude as the West Berliners."

East German leaders Saturday

(Continued on page 3)

Ethiopia mobilises civilians to fight rebels

ADDIS ABABA (AP) — The government has announced a nationwide mobilisation of civilians to fight the northern rebels steadily moving toward the capital, the Ethiopian News Agency (ENA) reported Saturday.

The state-owned news agency said the congress of a newly formed National Revolutionary Campaign Centre met for the first time Friday in Addis Ababa and approved unspecified methods of mobilisation.

According to ENA, hundreds of thousands of civilians will be armed to join the regular army in the war against the rebel Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF). The report did not specify when the mobilisation would begin.

President Mengistu Haile Mariam told the congress that the immediate aim of the mobilisation drive was to drive the TPLF from Wollo and north western Gondar provinces before moving into Tigray, which the rebels have controlled since February.

Mengistu said groups of armed civilians, called militias, would be formed in all parts of the country. However, the militias forming the vanguard would come from north western Gondar and Gojjam and

eastern Assab and Eritrea provinces. These provinces surround Tigray.

The militias from the central Showa and Addis Ababa, Eastern Harar and Dire Dawa, and Western Wollo regions would be deployed when needed.

The TPLF took up arms in 1974 to press for increased autonomy for Tigray province, but now is demanding Mengistu's ouster. Although TPLF began preliminary peace talks with the government in Rome last week, the rebel group has shown no signs of slowing down the current offensive.

When the talks began Nov. 30, the rebels claimed in a clandestine radio broadcast that they had captured another town and killed 100 soldiers in two days of fighting 160 kilometres north of Addis Ababa.

Since late August, the TPLF fighters have scored a series of victories, pushing government troops south along Ethiopia's

main north-south highway out of their home province of Tigray and into southern parts of Wollo province, Tigray's neighbour.

Mengistu said the mobilisation did not mean the government was abandoning negotiations with the Tigrayan and Eritrean Peoples' Liberation Front, a secessionist group in Ethiopia's northernmost Eritrea province.

"We will continue the search for a peaceful solution of the crisis," Mengistu said. "But urgent measures must also be simultaneously taken in the face of the dangerous and critical situation now looming large in the northern part of the country."

The government began negotiations with the EPLF in September in Atlanta, Georgia, under the auspices of former U.S. President Jimmy Carter.

The second round of these talks in Nairobi, Kenya, has been postponed for two days until Nov. 20, and there has been no recent report of fighting in Eritrea.

The Eritreans have been fighting since 1962 and the Ethiopian government has accused them of collaborating with the TPLF in order to hasten Eritrea's secession.

Sudan sends peace mission to Tanzania

DAR ES SALAAM (R) — A Sudanese government delegation has arrived in Tanzania as part of an African tour looking for help to end the six-year Sudanese civil war.

"The visit is part of our efforts to seek support in solving the conflict," Elsadig Ahmad Osman, Sudan's charge d'affaires in Dar es Salaam told Reuters.

The Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA), led by former Colonel John Garang, has been fighting since 1983 to end what it considers to be domination of the largely Christian south of Sudan by the Muslim north.

The government delegation, headed by Brigadier Osman Ahmad Hassan, chairman of the political committee of the ruling National Salvation Revolutionary Command Council, arrived Friday and expects to meet President Ali Hassan Mwinyi.

The team has already visited Zaire and will leave Tanzania Monday for Uganda and later Kenya, Somalia and possibly southern Africa.

"The government is trying to work out a peace formula based on internal agreement and African consensus," Osman said.

The only direct peace talks between Sudan's military rulers, who seized power last June, and SPLA rebels collapsed in Ethiopia in August over whether Islamic laws should be kept in a future constitution.

In Paris, the 12-nation European Community (EC) Friday appealed for an end to fighting in Sudan and called for peace talks.

It said relief supplies should be distributed in the beleaguered southern part of the country where the SPLA is fighting government troops.

The military junta last week stopped all flights to the famine-prone area, including those carrying supplies.

"After several months of effective ceasefire, the 12 deplore the resumption of fighting in the south and the resulting suffering and loss of human life," said a statement issued in Paris. France is current president of EC institutions.

Explorers open 'space' for earth' conference

RIYADH (AP) — The Saudi Arabian Defence Minister opened Saturday a five-day conference of space explorers, with the focus on means of collectively harnessing space sciences to alleviate pains of mankind.

Prince Sultan bin Abdul Aziz told the 5th planetary congress of the Association of Space Explorers that the kingdom "is committed to pursue a policy of benefiting from space sciences and technologies."

He urged the congress in a speech to carry on efforts aimed at "evolving a clear and realistic appreciation of what is being done in space to make earth a peaceful planet for all."

Soviet cosmonauts, apparently aware of being hosted by the guardians of the Islamic faith, guardedly skirted atheism and conceded that God exists. Their chief delegate lauded Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev for "reinstating religion to its rightful place in (the Soviet) society."

"Indeed, this is one of Gorbachev's wisest decisions," said Maj. Gen. Alexei Leonov. "We know that Karl Marx (founder of Communism) had said that religion is the opium of peoples... what a blissful opium."

Leonov and Russell "Rusty" Schweickart of the United States are co-chairmen of the association. Addressing a news conference, they expressed hopes their governments will agree on a joint U.S.-Soviet flight to Mars.

Conspicuously absent was Neil Armstrong, the first man to walk on the moon. Leonov is noted as the first man to walk in space.

"Space for Earth" was the keynote of the sessions and title of an address to be delivered by India's Dr. Yash Pal, this year's winner of the association award for his work in designing a satellite network to serve rural areas.

Saudi astronaut Prince Sultan bin Salman, the first Arab to visit outer space, appealed to reporters to exhort peoples and governments of the world to support the association morally and financially.

A major in the Saudi Air Force, the young prince, the host of the conference, was aboard a U.S. space shuttle Discovery flight in 1985.

Schweickart said that foremost on the agenda is a "rescue in space" programme, complete

with facilities and laws for coming to the aid of persons and ships in distress in space.

He said the parleys were motivated mainly by a "sense of well-being of all mankind, regardless of nationality, colour or creed."

"Political leaders are beginning to respond to our beliefs," he said, stressing that the congress has no definite leverage on the political leaders of the world and appealing to the media for help.

Schweickart said the congress can only recommend means of employing space technology for the good of mankind, and Leonov stressed that "we (congress members) are against wars of all kinds, be them on Earth or in space. War is the ugliest affliction to which mankind can be subjected."

He and Schweickart expressed hopes the Soviet and U.S. governments will eventually agree to send a joint team to Mars.

"It's much easier and far less costly for us (Russian and American) cosmonauts to fly together to Mars," Leonov said. "We fervently hope we will do it jointly."

He revealed that members of the association are "decided that if any of us gains a bit of authority in his own country, then he would work to push our objectives closer to reality."

Schweickart said the association has submitted a recommendation to the U.S. Congress to accept the principle of a joint Soviet-U.S. flight to Mars.

Responding to a question, Leonov narrated what he described as a "true history" anecdote which, he said, is more popular as a mere joke.

"I was there at the celebration in 1961, when (the first man cosmonaut) Yuri Gagarin returned to Earth from his flight to outer space," he said. "Soviet leader (Nikita) Khrushchev asked Gagarin if he had seen God up there in outer space, and the cosmonaut said 'yes'. Khrushchev then ordered him not to tell anyone about this."

He said: "Later, at the same celebration, the Russian archbishop approached Gagarin and asked if he had seen God up there, and the answer was 'no'. The archbishop appealed to Gagarin not to tell anyone about this."

MIDDLE EAST NEWS BRIEFS

Sudan's leader visits North Yemen

SANAA (R) — Sudan's military leader, General Omar Hassan Ali Basha, arrived in North Yemen Saturday for an official visit, the South Yemeni News Agency said. It quoted him as saying on arrival that his talks with President Ali Abdullah Saleh would cover all the problems of the Middle East and world issues. Political sources in Sanaa said the two leaders would also discuss the civil war in southern Sudan and the possibility of North Yemen mediating between Sudan and Ethiopia.

Egypt, U.S. conduct exercises

CAIRO (R) — Egyptian and U.S. military units began a week-long joint exercise Saturday to improve their combat capabilities, the U.S. embassy said. The exercise, codenamed "Bright Star" and involving land and air forces, "allows an exchange of experiences and information on modern weapons and tactics," it said in a press release. It coincides with a visit to Cairo by U.S. Army Secretary Michael Stone, who is due to have talks with Defence Minister Youssef Sabri Abu Taleb. The embassy said the exercise was not related to "real world events and has been in the planning stages for some time."

Cholera reported in Western Sahara

ALGIERS (R) — Cholera has killed 18 persons in the Western Sahara, the diplomatic arm of the Polisario Front has said. The Information Ministry of the Saharan Arab Democratic Republic appealed to international organisations to help the cholera victims and people wounded in recent desert fighting. The statement said the sick and wounded were in hospitals "in the occupied towns," meaning Moroccan-controlled territory, but the authorities had not reported the epidemic because of a black-out on news from the area. Polisario has been fighting for independence since 1976. It said it killed 250 Moroccan soldiers and wounded 325 during an attack Wednesday. The Moroccans said they lost 45 dead and 56 wounded in the battle and that Polisario losses were 87 dead.

Ibn Ali leaves for U.N. and U.S.

TUNIS (R) — President Zine Al Abidine Ibn Ali left Tunisia Saturday for the United States where he will address the U.N. General Assembly and hold talks with President George Bush. Ibn Ali will go to Washington Tuesday for a private meeting at the White House with President George Bush following his New York speech to the U.N. Monday. The visit is Ibn Ali's first to North America since he took power two years ago. Tunisian officials said the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and Third World debt would be discussed during his talks with the U.S. president. Tunis is the headquarters of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and Ibn Ali receives regular briefings on Middle East peace efforts from PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat. Ibn Ali hopes to use his trip to stimulate interest in Tunisia as a place for investment by U.S. corporations.

13 dead in Turkish house collapse

ISTANBUL (R) — A family of 13 died when their mud-brick house collapsed after heavy rains near Silvan in southeast Turkey Saturday, Anatolian News Agency said.

Iran to step-up anti-drugs crackdown

NICOSIA (AP) — Iran will inaugurate 10 days of intensified arrests of drug addicts and traffickers starting Saturday, Tehran Television reported. The broadcast, monitored in Nicosia, said that during the campaign all organisations are expected to identify their drug-abusing employees. In addition, tents will be set up throughout the country to receive tips on drug traffickers or to identify addicts. Armed mobile units will patrol the streets of Tehran, the Iranian capital, day and night during the campaign, the television said. It said that 75 per cent of the Pasdar Force, the country's main law enforcement agency, will be utilised in the crackdown. Volunteer forces will also be used, the radio said.

Iranians go on rampage in embassy

THE HAGUE, Netherlands (AP) — About 20 Iranians burst into the Dutch embassy in Tehran and smashed furniture and equipment, causing considerable damage, the Dutch Foreign Ministry has said. A night guard, the only one present at the embassy premises in a downtown office bloc, was locked up but remained unhurt in the incident, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said. He spoke in exchange for anonymity in line with ministry practice. Dutch Charge d'Affaires Hugo Van Der Goes Van Naters issued a "strong protest" at the Foreign Ministry in Tehran, asking for immediate compensation and for beefed-up security measures, according to the spokesman. "They smashed up everything there was to smash up," the spokesman said. No exact damage estimate was immediately available, and the motive of the hooligans was not clear, the spokesman said. But NRC-Handelsblad, a Rotterdam newspaper, speculated that the rampage might be a retaliatory action for a fire bomb attack against the Iranian embassy in the Hague last month. The embassy's door was slightly damaged in that incident, in which no arrests have been made so far.

Turkish extremists attack museum

ISTANBUL (AP) — A group of Muslim fundamentalists have attacked a museum and destroyed photographs in two exhibitions, a museum official said. Mine Arasan, director of the museum run by the journalists' association, said about 40 bearded, young men overpowered the museum guard and started tearing up photographs of ballerinas and different kinds of headgear used by Turkish women. Arasan said the group destroyed around 150 works of art, including some cartoons in another part of the gallery. She said the photographs showed how women have been covering their heads since Kemal Ataturk founded the Turkish Republic in 1923. The exhibit included pictures of modern hats, turbans and others that used gold and silver jewelry and flowers.

Hostage discussions 'heating up'

BEIRUT (AP) — A weekly magazine has reported that behind-the-scenes discussions about the release of the 18 Western hostages were heating up.

Ash Shiraz, in an unsecured report, said this week's release of Iranian assets by the United States at the same time Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati was in Algiers indicated the issue was once again on the front burner.

"It is known that the issue of foreign hostages in Lebanon has been put on the front burner and developments could come up concerning the release of some of the hostages very soon," the magazine said in a two-paragraph story.

It has made similar predictions regularly since November 1987, when it broke the story of the United States trading arms with Iran in exchange for hostage release.

None of its recent hostage reports have been accurate. Algeria was the main mediator in the negotiations that led to the release of 52 Americans in January 1981 after they were held hostage in the U.S. embassy in Tehran for 444 days.

The official Islamic Republic News Agency had said the purpose of Velayati's 3-day trip this week to Algiers was to discuss bilateral relations.

Meanwhile, the legal advisor to Iranian President Hashemi Rafsanjani said Friday that Washington's decision to release \$567 million in frozen Iranian assets will not affect the fate of the hostages, Tehran Television reported.

The broadcast, monitored in Nicosia, quoted Eftekhhar Jahromi as rejecting any link between the hostages and the released assets.

"The payment was solely in line with the Algiers agreements, according to which \$1.4 billion were placed in an account for claims by American banks against Iran. Iran's claims against American banks were similarly paid," the broadcast quoted Jahromi as saying.

The U.S.-Iranian Claims Commission was set up in 1981 after talks in Algiers to settle claims between Iranian and American banks.

He said that a little more than \$810 million were leftover in the account, and that after talks between the American and Iranian sides at the International Court at the Hague, it was agreed that \$567 million would be paid to Iran.

The remaining \$243 million were put into an account in an Algiers bank for other settlements, the radio quoted Jahromi as saying.

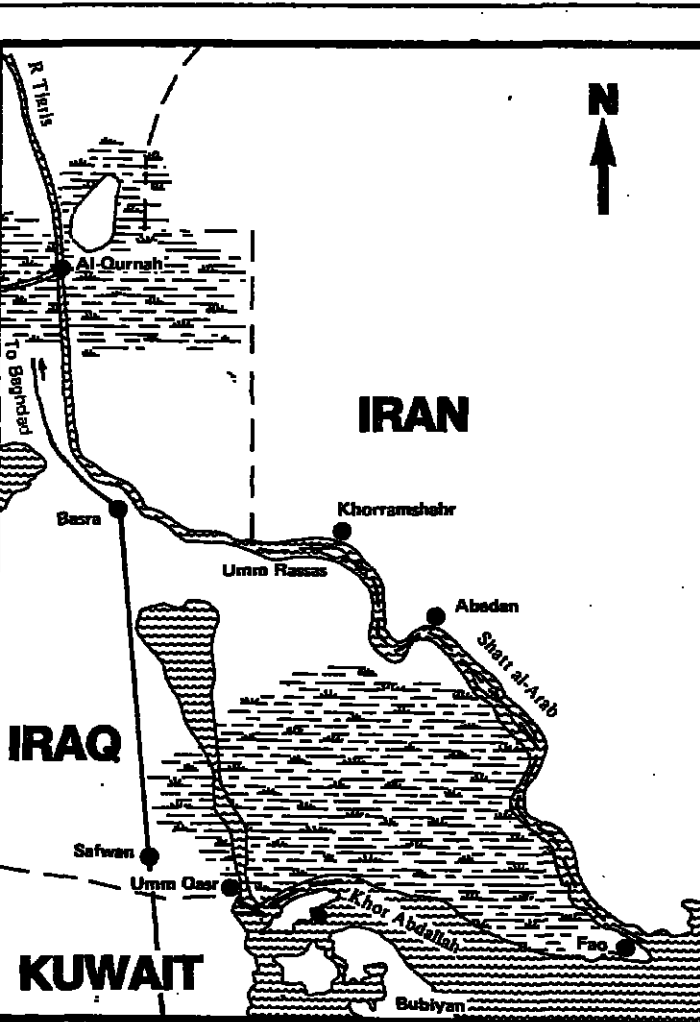
Basra ready to receive ships

BAGHDAD (AP) — The Iraqis have dredged a 23-kilometre waterway from Basra to the Gulf, opening the southern port city to major maritime traffic for the first time since the war with Iran erupted in 1980, a senior official has said.

Sami Ajmi Kadum, director-general of the state-run Al Muthana Irrigation Co., told the Associated Press that millions of tonnes of silt were dredged from the Shatt-Al-Arab waterway, Iraq's main outlet to the Gulf before the war.

The 14.1 million-dinar (\$4.5 million) project will involve dredging an estimated 21 million cubic metres of silt from the Khar Abdullah Channel that runs south from Umm Qasr.

The approaches to Umm Qasr and Khor Al Zubair will also be dredged to a depth of 13.5 metres.



JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 77311-19

PROGRAMME ONE

15:30 Koran
15:40 Programme review
15:45 Children programme
17:10 Football
18:00 News summary in Arabic
18:05 Local programme
18:20 Give Me a Break
19:15 Local programme
19:40 Programme review
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Arabic series
21:40 Programme review
21:50 Local programme
22:40 Varieties programme
23:00 News summary in Arabic

PROGRAMME TWO

18:00 Loft story
18:15 L'ecole de fans
19:00 News in French
19:05 Silence on Tourne
19:30 News in Hebrew
19:45 Varieties programme
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Sorry
21:10 Doc. "The Natural World"
22:00 News in English
22:20 Midnight Caller

PRAYER TIMES

04:34 Fajr
05:52 (Sunrise) Dhuha
11:19 Dhuhr
14:29 'Asr

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swedish, Tel. 837040
Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 632785
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757
Terrence Church Tel. 623666
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541
Anglican Church Tel. 625383, Tel. 628543
Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751
Armenian International Church Tel. 683326
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 811285
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 818817 and 654932

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

It will be partly cloudy to cloudy with expected scattered showers of rain in the northern and central parts of the Kingdom. In Aqaba, winds will be

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

northerly moderate and seas calm.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

AMMAN:
Dr. Abdul Rahim Ahmad 744685
Dr. Abdul Qader Al Lala 896048
Dr. Hisham Kanan 790286
Dr. Mohammad Khalil 896294
Firdous pharmacy 661912
Al Asena pharmacy 637035
Nairoukh pharmacy 626772
Al Salam pharmacy 636730
Yacoub pharmacy 644945
Shamsi pharmacy 637660

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:
Dr. Amin Abu Eidh (—)
Al Sharaa' pharmacy (985238)

EMERGENCIES

Civil Defence Department 661111
Civil Defence Immediate 630341
Rescue 199
Rescue Police 192, 621111, 637777
Fire Brigade 821226
Blood Bank 775121
Highway Police 843402
Traffic Police 896390
Public Security Department 630321
Hotel Complaints 658000
Price Complaints 661176
Water and Sewerage 897467
Amman Municipality 787111
Complaints 121
Overseas Calls 010230
Central Amman Telephone 623101
Abdull Telephone Repair 661101
Jordan Television 773111
Radio Jordan 741111
Water Authority 680100
Jordan Electricity Authority 815615
Electric Power 815615

HOSPITALS

AMMAN:
Hassan Medical Centre 813813/32
Khadija Maternity, J. Amn. 6452816
Al-Bashir, J. Amn. 624412
Jabal Amman Maternity 642562
Madina, J. Amn. 636140
Palestine, Shamsi 6641714
Shamsi Hospital 669131
University Hospital 845845
Al-Muhammed Hospital 672279
The Islamic, Abdull 6612757
Al-Ahli, Abdull 6641646
Al-Bashir, J. Amn. 7771013
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 775111/26
Amn, Madina 891611/15
Queen Alla Hospital 6224080
Amal Hospital 674155
ZARQA:
Zarga Govt. Hospital (09)883323
Zarga National Hospital (09)91071
Im Sim Hospital (09)86752
IBRD:
Princetown Hospital (02)75555
Greek Catholic Hospital (02)72775
Im Ali Nadees Hospital (02)347100
AQABA:
Princess Haya Hospital (05)314111

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (06)53200-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)
06:30 Cairo (RJ)
06:30 Jeddah (RJ)
06:30 Kuwait (RJ)
06:30 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)
06:30 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
06:30 Athens (OA)
06:30 London (BA)

DEPARTURES

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)
06:30 Cairo (RJ)
06:30 Jeddah (RJ)
06:30 Kuwait (RJ)
06:30 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)
06:30 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
06:30 Athens (OA)
06:30 London (BA)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

06:30 Athens (OA)
06:30 Kuwait (RJ)
06:30 Cairo (RJ)
06:30 Jeddah (RJ)
06:30 Kuwait (RJ)
06:30 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)
06:30 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
06:30 Athens (OA)
06:30 London (BA)

MARKET PRICES

Uppeflower price in fils per kg

Apple 420 / 380
Banana 450 / 480
Banana (Mukammal) 400 / 330
Beane 280 / 400
Cabbage 200 / 150
Carrot 320 / 280
Cauliflower 200 / 150
Corn 250 / 300
Cucumbers (large) 90 / 80
Cucumbers (small) 130 / 120
Eggplant 180 / 150
Garlic 850 / 750
Grapefruit 220 / 180
Grapes 450 / 400
Grapes (black) 350 / 300
Lemon 250 / 180
Mango 200 / 150
Marrow (large) 100 / 70
Marrow (small) 190 / 140
Okra 600 / 550
Olives 850 / 750
Onion (dry) 250 / 180
Orange 450 / 400
Pepper (sweet) 170 / 120
Pepper (hot) 170 / 120
Pomegranate 350 / 300
Potato 600 / 550
Sage 600 / 550
Spinach 250 / 180
Tomatoes 240 / 180
Water Melon 200 / 150

Jordan seeks help to extend high-land project

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan is seeking help from the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) to extend a high-land development project for another five years, starting 1990 to help promote farming in rain-fed regions, according to the secretary-general of the Ministry of Agriculture, Dr. Sami Sunnaa.

The project, which has been in progress in Jordan for the past 10 years, entails providing food supplies by the United Nations Food Programme (UNFP) to small farmers in the Kingdom to encourage them to carry out soil preservation schemes and to plant their land with fruit trees, according to Sunnaa who left for Rome Saturday heading a delegation to the FAO's 25th annual meeting.

According to U.N. officials here, the highland development project in Jordan gives high priority

to provide assistance to control and reverse erosion. Food as an incentive, contributes to propelling the development process and stimulates community participation and self-reliance, they noted.

The project aims principally at reclaiming waste land in hilly areas which have been severely affected by soil erosion to grow olive and other fruit or forest trees.

The additional five-year programme, Sunnaa said, is expected to cost the World Food Programme (WFP), an arm of FAO, an additional \$26 million.

The FAO's 20-day meeting, Sunnaa said, will discuss a host of topics dealing with agriculture and food problems around the world and an analytical study of trends in world food production. He said that the meeting would

also discuss a FAO's world-wide programme and its annual budgets for 1990 and 1991.

In addition, the meeting will discuss the prospect of returning the Near East regional office to the Middle East area from Rome where it is now based.

The Jordanian delegation will also request that FAO finance three agricultural projects and provide technical assistance to Jordan in the coming years, Sunnaa said.

FAO fights malnutrition and hunger, and serves as a coordinating agency for development programmes in the whole range of food and agriculture, including forestry and fisheries. The organisation also helps developing countries, including the Arab World, to promote educational and training facilities and institution-building.



A bedouin votes Wednesday but tribal leaders no longer sure for which candidate

Dramatic shifts shake tribalism

By Mariam M. Shahin
Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — The cracks that appeared in the domination of tribalism in Jordanian society — political, economic or social — during the run-up to this week's elections have emerged more defined in the final ballot count.

Tribalism and tribal affiliations have undergone dramatic changes since the last general elections in the Kingdom, and a glance at the results chart this week quickly indicates that traditional tribal leaders, or "sheikhs," suffered unprecedented setbacks in their bids to retain their seats in the Lower House of Parliament, whether dealt by Islamists, ideologues, independents or the younger "enlightened generation" of the tribes.

At a press conference Friday, His Majesty King Hussein agreed that tribalists outside of the bedouin districts had suffered setbacks. "The members of tribes have lost contact with one another as a result of an opening of society and increased educational opportunities," the King said. He said the generation gap between tribe members might also have prompted the apparent decline of tribal alliances at the election polls. He also stressed that the results of the elections should indicate to tribalists and others what would or would not be in their best interests.

The election results indicated that tribal votes had been split equally among candidates of the same clan. Except for the few who either belonged to the Muslim Brotherhood or had strong ideological links, very few won seats in Parliament.

Divide and Defeat

"In Karak, the smaller clans had an unofficial policy which was not to vote for the big tribes," said a close observer of the Karak election scene. "They were tired of domination by the big clans which had been playing the major role as far back as they could remember," the analyst said. "So they elected any candidate except big clan members and thus people who are relatively unknown from the 'ashir al-faqireh,' or the poorer tribes, won the votes," he added.

In the only exception to clan disunity, members of one clan, the Obeidat of the Ramtha and Beni Kanana districts, held preliminary elections amongst each other and chose one candidate to represent them. Their candidate won one of the three parliamentary seats allocated to their district. The Obeidats estimated that they had 8,000 voting members, but their candidate Quseim Obeidat won 9,203 votes.

On the other hand, the Bataineh of Irbid Governorate, who were estimated to have 8,000 voting members, had five members of their clan in the election race. The five Bataineh candidates together won almost 21,000 votes; their most successful candidate, Selim Bataineh, won over 9,000 votes but failed to reach Parliament. "In the last Parliament we had a Bataineh and this time we don't because we had no consensus among the 'ashirah' members; it serves us right," said one clan member.

Tribal-ideologues win

Members of major tribes who were associated with politically oriented or organised

schools of thought, often won enough votes to enter Parliament. This was the case with Kamel Al Omari from Irbid Governorate and Abdul Latif Ar'ay from Balqa Governorate. Both of whom were on the Muslim Brotherhood ticket. There were also several others. On the other hand, Mohammad Faris Tarawneh and Issa Madanat, both members of major Muslim and Christian clans respectively in Karak governorate, are believed to have won their seats in Parliament because of their Arab-nationalist alliances and not primarily because of tribal affiliations.

'Independents'

Some tribal candidates who were running on independent tickets, however, were elected despite the fact that several members of their clan also ran in the same district. In the Fourth District of Amman, an election associate of deputy-elect Nayef Minwer Al Hadid said that among the Hadid clan of "several thousands" there had been a general consensus over the leading candidate prior to the polls and other clan members candidates were "renegades with no backing or consequence."

The governorate of Ma'an appeared to be an exception to the general trend. Tribal alliances for the most part seemed to prevail over the Islamic trend, which swept through other districts with major victories. Although Yusef Al Athem an Islamist led the race, the other four successful candidates had represented clans and ran as independents. They included former ministers Suleiman Arar and Hisham Al Sharari, as well as Ziad Shweikh and Abdul Karim Al Kabari.

Election results indicate that voters in Ma'an seem to have been the most "uninfluenced by the Islamic trend in Jordan," according to one foreign observer. "It is strange that Ma'an chose its representatives on the most traditional — tribal lines — when compared to other districts," the observer said.

Six months ago, sudden price rises, which were implemented in accordance with an agreement with the International Monetary Fund, were the cause of major unrest and demonstrations in the traditional southern city. Many Jordanian and foreign observers contend that the calls raised in Ma'an for more political freedom and a fight against corruption in the government were instrumental in bringing about quicker parliamentary elections.

Bedouin Districts

In the three bedouin districts, traditional leaders who had no ideological or Islamic links prevailed despite the presence of candidates of the latter in the race.

Although not all may agree, one independent observer remarked: "From what I understood from the King's speech, political parties should be formed sometime in the near future. This is likely to further diminish the muscle of the tribalists and it may weaken the Islamist trends as well."

Another surprise in the election results in the bedouin districts was the failure of former minister and speaker of the Lower House Akel El Fayez to win a seat for the central bedouin district.

Seminar urges global effort to fight drugs

AMMAN (J.T.) — A five-day regional conference on treatment and rehabilitation of drug addicts opened in Amman Saturday with calls for mobilisation of international efforts to combat drug addiction, which tends to impede economic and social development.

"The danger is not confined to one nation or one region of the world, but transcends borders and affects people's lives around the globe," Minister of Health and Social Development Zuhair Malhas said in an address at the opening session.

Malhas, who deputised for His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan at the meeting, said that drugs worth some \$300 billion were being used annually in different countries, including the United States which is estimated to consume some \$300 billion worth of drugs alone.

He said the speedy measures should be introduced to deal with the situation and to curtail the danger, "which has serious consequences on health, social, economic and even military and political life of a nation."

"It is not easy to end addiction since rehabilitation processes take a long time to carry out successfully, but it is rather easier to combat drug trafficking, provided international cooperation is available," the minister noted.

"This conference seeks to find means of helping addicts readjust to normal life by providing treat-

ment and assistance at specialised centres," the minister said.

The meeting was addressed by Ghaleb Barakat, assistant to the director general of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) which is co-sponsored the regional conference with the Ministry of Health and the United Nations Fund for Dealing with Drug Abuse.

"In view of the drug danger, which threatens all nations around the world," Barakat said, "government should pool their resources and join forces not only in combatting drug trafficking but also in helping addicts to return to normal life."

"Drug addiction is a major issue that obstructs socio-economic development and causes severe harm to societies, leading to criminal activities, corruption, debts, deprivation of rights and gloomy prospects for generations to come," Barakat said.

Barakat outlined part of the ILO's work in helping drug addicts overcome their predicament and also acquire vocational training to qualify them to assume a productive life.

He called for urgent cooperation on the part of various countries in providing vocational training for the rehabilitated addicts and to help provide the means to stem the practice of drug abuse within an integrated strategy.

Barakat also outlined other forms of activities conducted by

the ILO to help combat drug addiction.

Brigadier Ghaleb Zou'bi, director of the Narcotics section at the Public Security Department (PSD), said in a speech that his department, which was established in Jordan in the early 1970s, had succeeded in combatting drug trafficking in the Kingdom.

Jordan is still, to a large extent, considered one of the least drug consuming countries in the world though it has quite a number of drug addicts who are being rehabilitated at a specialised centre.

Zou'bi said Jordan, or any other country, can never be safe from drug addiction or trafficking unless regional and international efforts are pooled to fend off the danger.

Zou'bi reviewed the Kingdom's measures, including legislation to deal with the drug situation and the implementation of pan-Arab and international resolutions in this respect. Heavy penalties are being imposed on drug traffickers and users in the country.

Participants attending the conference represent Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Lebanon, the United Arab Emirates, Egypt, North and South Yemen, Oman and Jordan as well as the ILO.

Topics on the agenda cover common forms of drug abuse, ways of protecting societies from addiction and measures that can be taken to combat drugs.

Doors worth JD 1.6m sold to Iraq this year

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Jordan Wooden Industries (JWICO) exported doors worth JD 1.6 million to Iraq up to late September under an agreement signed with the Iraqi government last year, according to JWICO Chairman and Director-General Najib Qub'ain.

The Arabic daily Al Dustour quoted Qub'ain as saying that the quantities to be exported until the end of 1989 will be worth over JD 4 million.

The new agreement signed with the Iraqi government, Qub'ain said, provides for exporting products worth \$7.5 million and that the execution of the contract began in early November, whereby 50 per cent of the

mentioned products would be dispatched to Iraq before the end of 1989 and the remaining 50 per cent will be delivered in 1990.

JWICO's production until the end of 1989 is expected to stand at JD 4 million. The sales in local markets stood at JD 1.8 million until late September 1989, an increase of 40 per cent over last year. Sales by the end of 1990 are expected to top JD 2.2 million.

Following the stabilisation of the dinar's rate of exchange and the tangible drop of prices of raw materials in Jordanian dinar, JWICO decided to drop the prices of its products by 15-22 per cent effective Sept. 16, 1989 for local consumption.

Cabbie shot dead

AMMAN (J.T.) — A taxi driver was shot and killed in western Amman Saturday and a 28-year-old man from Jabal Hussein was arrested as the prime suspect in the killing, according to a statement issued by the Public Security Department (PSD).

A statement issued by the PSD said the suspect, identified only as HRH, was arrested immediately after the killing on Mecca Street. According to the statement, the suspect was riding the taxi, and when the vehicle was proceeding along Mecca Street, he pulled out a gun and opened fire on the driver, who died instantly. It said the driver was a Marka resident.

The Jordan News Agency, Petra, quoted PSD sources as saying that the suspect had confessed to the killing, which, he said, followed a dispute.



A CN-235 plane displays its wings

Indonesian plane visits Jordan

AMMAN (J.T.) — In exploring the possibility of the further expanding its production market, the Indonesian Aircraft Industry (IPTN) has sent the CN-235 aircraft mission headed by Mr. Paramajuda to many countries in the Middle East, including Jordan, in order to perform demonstration flights.

The CN-235 is the first Indonesian-Spanish jointly designed aircraft, specifically for regional transport and could also be converted to both a

military and a maritime patrol aircraft. It was rolled out from its production line in 1983. More than 130 orders have been received for this aircraft from various countries all over the world.

While visiting Jordan from Nov. 7-12, the CN-235 aircraft performed a demonstration flight at Amman airport Nov. 11, 1989, during which His Royal Highness Prince Faisal, along with Jordanian Civil Aviation and military officials took part in the flight.

Thalia Myers — from classical Viennese to new British music

By John Foreman
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Thalia Myers, as a guest of the New English School, paid a return visit to Jordan last weekend and gave a recital Thursday evening, at the Royal Cultural Centre. Her programme was varied, ranging from music of the classical Viennese school to works by modern British composers.

The programme began with a selection from Edwin Roxburgh's six études. Myers opened with a performance of Nov. 5, a powerful rhapsodic movement with an accompaniment of orchestral density. This was followed by number 3, a slow movement in the form of an arch, leading to a densely articulated climax. Number 6 provided a spectacular finale — highly complex and dramatic, essentially contrapuntal in nature. The études were played

with commitment and energy, thus ensuring a totally convincing performance.

The next work was Haydn's Andante con variazione in F minor, which was a refreshing reminder of the extent of subtlety and invention of a composer whose reputation in recent years has been somewhat eclipsed by that of Mozart. Myers' performance of this work combined lightness of touch with clarity of texture.

In complete contrast, there followed a soulful rendition of Rachmaninoff's Elegie opus 3 Number 1. Though clearly less nationalistic than the previous generation of Russian composers, Rachmaninoff's handling of melodic line reveals the folk tradition from which composers such as himself derive both the form and the mood of the music. The Prelude in G minor by the same composer offered a more austere contrast.

After the interval, Myers played Gabriel Jackson's Angelorum, an attractive piece with high parallel passages in the right hand evidently representing an angelic choir. It is simple, unfussy music, relying on block chords, diatonic melodies and pedal notes in the left hand. Myers' performance gave the piece a sense of cohesion and purpose and effectively highlighted the contrasts between the left hand and right hand parts.

The final work was the Variations and Fugue on a theme of Handel by Brahms, the last in the line of Viennese masters, who effectively combined romantic period colour with the form of the Baroque and classical periods. This is a work of some length and there are frequent changes of mood and pace. Myers handled the heavy demands of this work with obvious enthusiasm and drive, exploiting the rich textures of Brahms writing to the full.

NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

PROJECTS TO ENCOURAGE INVESTMENTS: The Council of Ministers Saturday endorsed decisions by a committee in charge of encouraging investments in the country. The committee had approved 12 projects as economically feasible. Under a law for encouraging investments, such projects would enjoy certain privileges and tax exemptions. The new projects are for producing pharmaceuticals, video and cassettes, perfumes, cosmetics and chemical detergents (Petra).

NEW AMBASSADORS: A royal decree announced Saturday appointing Mohammad Odwan as Jordan's ambassador to the Soviet Union, Shaber Bak as ambassador to Spain and Hassan Abu N'meli as ambassador to Italy (Petra).

ACO PREPARATIONS: Arab Cities Organisation (ACO) Secretary-General Abdul Aziz Al Adasani is due here Monday for a two-day visit to Jordan for talks with Amman Mayor Ali Subeian on the Greater Amman Municipal Council. A statement by Amman municipality said that Adasani would discuss the implementation of ACO resolutions and preparations for the organisation's ninth meeting due to be held in the Moroccan city of Tangiers in January 1990. Adasani will be accompanied on the visit by ACO Director-General Taleb Al Taher (Petra).

JAPANESE EDUCATION TIES: The charge d'affaires of the Japanese embassy in Amman visited the University of Jordan Saturday and met with its president, Mahmoud Al Samra, to discuss cooperation between the university and educational institutions in Japan. The question of instituting a Japanese studies unit at the University of Jordan was discussed at the meeting (Petra).

IMAMS, PREACHERS MEET: Imams and preachers held a meeting in Zarqa Saturday and discussed matters related to promoting and improving preaching and Friday sermons. The meeting was held under the chairmanship of Amman Awqaf Department Director Mohammad Zain (Petra).

CHILDREN WIN MEDALS: A group of Jordanian children who took part in a competition organised by the Arab Artists Union in Cairo have returned to Amman after winning two gold, one silver and one bronze medal for their contributions. The children competed in drawing, short story writing, poetry, and essay contests with other children from other Arab states. Najib Sabbagh and Hiyam Hamid won gold medals for painting and poetry, Nidal Akhras received a bronze medal in the short story category and Fadi Wahidi and Arwa Subbeih won silver medals in the drawing category (Petra).

MERCHANTS FINED: The martial court has fined Abdul Salam Utour JD 400 for illegally raising food commodity prices and Nayef Abu Jameh JD 150 for refraining from selling food stuffs. The court also sentenced Mahmoud Khaled to seven and a half years in prison with hard labour and a fine of JD 5,000 for drug trafficking. The military governor Saturday endorsed the sentences.

VEGETABLE SUPPLY: Amman's central marketplace announced Saturday that the volume of vegetables and fruits received during the past month were 32,520 tonnes against 38,247 tonnes received during the same month of last year. Of the total, the East Bank delivered 26,971 tonnes while 1,239 came from the West Bank and 515 tonnes from the Gaza Strip. (Petra)

SEMINAR ON CLAY USE: A seminar on the use of Jordanian dry clay in industry will open at the Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) Monday. The seminar, organised by the Natural Resources Authority (NRA), is designed to focus attention on Jordan's minerals and open the way for increased investment in mineral exploitation. (Petra)

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

- ★ An art exhibition by Jordanian artist Mohammad Al Qaddoumi displaying oil and watercolour paintings depicting nature in Jordan, at the Housing Bank Gallery.
- ★ Islamic calligraphy exhibition at Jordan National Gallery.
- ★ An art exhibition by Jordanian Artists Jamal Ashour, Hazem Al-Za'bi, Ghada Dahdala and Mohammad Al Jalous at Petra Bank Art Gallery.
- ★ A book exhibition at the Royal Cultural Centre.

LECTURE

- ★ A lecture on "Locality and Universality in the Writings of Najib Mahfouz" by Dr. Nabil Al Sharif at the British Council — 6:00 p.m.

FILM

- ★ A feature film entitled "Rain Man" at the American Centre — 7:30 p.m.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975

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Sunday's Economic Pulse

Economic aspects of elections

LIKE every major development in the country, elections may have favourable and unfavourable economic consequences. On the negative side we can point out the new additional element of uncertainty brought about by the strong showing of the Islamic fundamentalists, against the moderate gains of the leftists. The business community is set to wait and see what new trends will be brought about, and especially the composition and nature of the coming government that would secure a comfortable vote of confidence.

On the other hand there are some worries that the newly elected members of parliament may call for more public expenditure, more subsidies, and other populist demands which, if accommodated by the government would represent a set-back to the current economic correction measures and the re-structuring and adjustment process of the economy.

On the positive side, the base of decision-making will be much broader, and the difficult decisions, which have to be taken, will be more acceptable by the people, including additional burdens or sacrifices. From now on, it is not the prime minister

and, to a lesser degree, the ministers, that will be responsible. We shall have more shoulders, and hopefully more minds and ideas.

Looking at the outcome of last week's elections we can identify contradicting signals about the mood of the people. In one hand the fundamentals representing the Islamic right exceeded the wildest expectations and lined up some 28 deputies. On the other hand the Left performed very well, and was able to put around 10 members in the forum. At the same time most of the symbols of the establishment, especially those who resigned their senior jobs to run for election, scored good successes and, together with the moderates, liberals, and traditionalists can forge a reasonable majority to safeguard the continuity, stability of the economic and political system, while trying hard to make the necessary reforms from within.

The elections were a success in one way and a failure in another. It was definitely a success as a democratic step in the right direction, and in the free and neutral conduct which may embarrass some regimes all through the Third World. But, in another way, it was an unfair competition as far as equal institutional opportunities were concerned.

The Islamic Brotherhood was the only legal organisation for three decades in the absence of all other parties. At one time it had full domination over the Ministry of Education, the university of Jordan, and the network of mosques across the country. The others were either individuals with limited resources and means, or small illegal parties which were given very short period of time to present their views in the open. The vast majority of the Jordanian people were neutralised. It was no surprise that one in five citizens eligible for elections did not register, and one in each seven registered voters did not bother to collect their voting cards, and two of each five holding cards did not vote. Citizens were under the wrong impression that they do not count. They left a well-organised minority and its allies to dominate the elections by efficiently mobilising less than 10.2 per cent of those eligible for voting.

It is my opinion that the elections held last week were an achievement we should be proud of, and extract the lessons from, but it was by no means a real mandate for the fundamentalists to run the country.

Don't judge us by different standards, Sandinistas tell U.S.

By Bernd Debusmann

Reuters

MANAGUA, Nicaragua — "We are the little men," says Tomas Borge, "and the big men sit in Washington. And they apply one set of standards to us and one to the rest of the world."

Borge, Nicaragua's powerful interior minister, blames double standards for an image of his country that has little to do with reality. Double standards, he says, are used to deepen hostility towards Nicaragua.

In an interview with Reuters, Borge touched on a problem that has poisoned relations with the United States ever since Ronald Reagan became U.S. president in 1981 and declared Nicaragua a "Communist danger" and a beach-head for Soviet expansion in Central America.

Diplomats here agree that Nicaragua has been under closer

U.S. scrutiny than any other Latin American country. Its leaders have provoked more invective from Washington than anyone else with the possible exception of Libya's Muammar Qadhafi and the late Ayatollah Khomeini of Iran.

At a pan American summit in Costa Rica this month, President George Bush likened Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega to a skunk and referred to him as "that little man." For Reagan, Ortega was "that little dictator in olive green."

Personal insults apart, Sandinista leaders cite dozens of examples of being measured by a U.S. yardstick that is not applied to other countries.

For example, the U.S. described presidential elections here in 1984 as a "Soviet-style sham." Independent observers said that while the political space of the Nicaraguan opposition was limited, there was no evidence of

fraud. In Panama in 1984 a vote considered rigged by virtually all electoral observers was hailed a victory for democracy by Washington and then-Secretary of State George Shultz attended the inauguration of the new president, Nicolas Barletta.

Nicaragua came under renewed criticism this month for ending a unilateral ceasefire in its war against U.S.-backed contra insurgents. The decision followed a series of rebel attacks that killed more than 40 people in ten days.

The Bush administration instantly suggested the Sandinistas were re-igniting the war — at an uneasy standstill since a Central American peace accord — to have a pretext to cancel elections next year which they feared losing.

"What were we supposed to do?" said Borge. "What alternative did we have? Sit back and

allow the contras to act with impunity? What they did just went too far."

Peace talks aimed at ending the eight-year-old civil war were expected to go ahead at the United Nations on Thursday and Friday.

Borge, 59, is the only surviving founder member of the Sandinista National Liberation Front that spearheaded the broad-based revolution that toppled U.S.-backed dictator Anastasio Somoza in 1979.

U.S. officials rate Borge, who spent years in Somoza's jails and was brutally tortured, as one of the most hawkish of the nine men who make up the Sandinistas' ruling national directorate.

Sitting in his book-lined study, Borge complained that the reasons for Sandinista actions tended to be ignored in the United States.

"No matter what we say... they never listen but always find some-

thing to criticise us for," he said of Washington.

Government actions elsewhere in Latin America to maintain public order were usually accepted as necessary by Washington but similar measures in Nicaragua routinely prompted U.S. condemnation, Borge said.

He listed the Venezuelan government's use of force this year to crush protest riots. Government forces killed more than 120 people.

Peruvian President Alan Garcia is using tough measures to curb Maoist guerrillas. In Colombia guerrillas and drug traffickers have forced the government to declare a state of emergency. Force was used in the Dominican Republic to quell unrest and Argentina was no stranger to harsh government action.

"But the last little thing that happens here turns into something terrible, something big,"

Borge said.

"When we used tear gas for the first and only time in Nicaragua, there was sharp criticism... though such things happen all over the place."

Anticipating U.S. attempts to challenge the validity of elections set for February 25, the Sandinistas have invited observers from the United Nations, the Organisation of American States and a team led by former U.S. President Jimmy Carter.

It will be the first time that the U.N. sends observers to elections in a sovereign country and Borge acknowledged that their proposed presence was considered humiliating by some Sandinista militants.

"But if we did not do this, the U.S. would accuse us of fraud," he said. "If we did not do this, the word fraud would not be enough... they would have to invent a new word."

Another milestone in Jordan history

IN a remarkably relaxed manner, His Majesty King Hussein laid to rest, during a press conference Friday, the fears and anxieties of those shortsighted commentators from within and outside the Kingdom that the results of the 1989 parliamentary elections spell doom for Jordan. First and foremost, King Hussein assured the local and foreign press that he and his government and people are totally satisfied with the outcome of the elections. That was in answer to some observers who were betting on the proposition that Jordan is all hot and bothered by the many revelations that the Wednesday elections brought forth. On the contrary, King Hussein assured Jordanians and others Friday that the results were very good and beneficial as they portray Jordanians' new state of mind. As for the magnificent show of strength by the "Islamic movement" in these elections, His Majesty reminded all concerned that Jordan is composed of Muslims and Christians ever since time immemorial and that it would be wrong and imprecise to maintain that the 30 odd parliamentary seats that will be occupied by members of the "Islamic movement" suggest a return to Islam. How can a Muslim return to Islam? King Hussein remarked. Muslims can only go forward with their faith and not backward. His Majesty went on to recall that the Kingdom has always been a haven for the Muslim Brotherhood movement at times when it suffered from persecution in other countries. Accordingly, it would be totally untrue to allege that the Muslim Brotherhood presence in the Lower House of the Parliament can ever be construed as a sign of growing opposition. In fact, King Hussein pointed out, participation in the decision-making process at the level of the Lower House of Parliament need not and must not be interpreted as "opposition" in the strictest sense of the word. And as an added guarantee that Jordan has no cause to fear the results of the elections and that there is no going back from the revitalised parliamentary life, His Majesty assured his people that the projected National Pact will envisage the establishment of political parties where all diverse political views and thoughts would have opportunities for expression.

All in all, the wind of change ushered by the results of the 1989 elections are lasting and welcomed by all. Parliamentary system in the Kingdom, therefore, can go only one way and that is forward. His Majesty has blessed the latest national elections and has stood by their fruits. Thus, 1989 will go down in Jordan history as yet another milestone on the continuing road towards greater participation of the people of Jordan in the decision-making process.

JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

ALL local dailies on Saturday discussed in their editorials and opinion columns the results of the parliamentary elections in Jordan and King Hussein's statements at a press conference to discuss these results and future prospects.

Al Ra'i daily said that the King has presented a clear picture of the future plans of the government, and noted that the results of the elections reflect the country's determination to move ahead in a united body towards creating a better future. The King has made it clear that like the elections, which were held in a free atmosphere, this country will continue to enjoy democracy and freedom, and the deputies will shoulder their new responsibilities in a manner that can enhance this democracy, the paper noted. But the King has pointed out that the deputies' task is to share in shouldering the burden of government, and not to serve as an opposition bloc barring progress, the paper added. There is no doubt, said the paper, that the new deputies will be confronting heavy responsibilities and the burden of economic and social issues that await solution, said the paper. The situation requires a great deal of patience, dedication, far-sightedness and serious efforts if solutions are to be found; and the parliament ought to contribute the major share in this process, added the paper.

A columnist in Al Ra'i Arabic daily Saturday calls for the creation of political groupings in Jordan so that no favour could be given to one group like the Muslim Brotherhood at the expense of others. Fahd Rimaawi says that no candidate in a parliamentary election can ever dream of succeeding and reaching parliament unless he is backed by an organised group or a political faction or a tribe. Therefore, he says, Jordan ought to have a wide sector of political spectrum which can help the executive authority carry out its duties. The writer congratulates the winners and says that now that the parliament contains a large sector of Islamists and it remains to be seen whether they can join in the effort of helping the government find solutions for the country's numerous problems as they had promised in their campaigns. The writer also notes that the people of Jordan who elected the deputies will be awaiting their honouring of commitments and pledges and solutions for all problems. What the deputies ought to do now, is not to serve as a factor of division or to act as an opposition group to the government, but rather as a participant in the efforts that serve the nation's goals.

Al Dastour daily said in its editorial that the parliamentary election in Jordan reflected the people's desire to participate in the government's efforts in discharging the affairs of the Kingdom. King Hussein's statements at the press conference have also added their dimension to this fact and strengthened the people's confidence in their country and its future. The people of Jordan have thus expressed their stand by electing those who they think can best represent them in government, and to help the executive authority carry out its duties, the paper said. The King said that the awareness and the feeling of national belonging on the part of the citizens of Jordan will be enhanced by new efforts and further endeavours so that the meaning of democracy can be bolstered at all levels, the paper noted. It also said that the coming stage requires self-confidence and serious endeavours by the deputies in parliament in cooperation with the government to serve the higher national interests.

New freedoms in E. Europe could unleash ethnic rows

By Patrick Worsnip

Reuters

LONDON — The crumbling of Communist authority in East Germany has raised the prospect of German reunification, but as new freedoms awaken old ethnic rivalries the Eastern Bloc could splinter.

"These problems have been kept in the fridge for 40 years," says Jonathan Eyal of Britain's Royal United Services Institute. "But they are coming up now."

Eastern Europe is a hot-pot of dozens of different nationalities, living in countries whose borders were defined, often arbitrarily, after the first and second world wars.

But their problems, which used to exercise statesmen of the great powers in the 19th and early 20th centuries, were swept under the carpet when Stalin imposed Communist rule on the area in the late 1940s.

Marxist-Leninist ideology taught that ethnic conflicts were a feature of capitalism and imperialism, and would wither away once the working class took power and all races lived together as brothers and sisters.

Now, as the lid is being lifted on the Communist world, national groups are starting to use their new-found freedom to voice old grudges. Some Western and Eastern experts fear an ethnic free-for-all that could destabilise Europe.

The problems have so far been most apparent in the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia, two countries that are amalgams of many different national groups.

The Soviet Union contains 15 republics and more than 100 nationalities. The traditionally dominant Russians now account for only just over half the population and are steadily declining as a proportion.

According to Gail Lapidus of the University of California, Soviet state founder Vladimir Lenin created a system that gave the symbols of nationhood to a number of national groups while at the same time imposing centralised party rule from Moscow.

"A fundamental tension was thus built into the Soviet system from its very origins," she writes in the latest issue of the U.S. journal Foreign Affairs.

Since Mikhail Gorbachev began to liberalise the system in 1985, the Baltic Republics have agitated for autonomy, territorial clashes between Armenians and Azerbaijanis have resulted in at least 120 dead, and discontent has bubbled up in many other areas.

In Yugoslavia, Communist but not a member of the Warsaw Pact, the federation of six social-

ist republics that President Josip Broz Tito held together after World War II has started to come unstuck since his death in 1980.

Clashes between Albanians and minority Serbs in the province of Kosovo have resulted in dozens of deaths, the prosperous republic of Slovenia has asserted increasing independence, and some analysts foresee Lebanon-style conflict in the country.

But other Western experts say these remain problems within one country, and predict that a still more serious situation could arise where ethnic groups spill over national borders, as is the case with Hungarians.

About one-fifth of Hungarian speakers live as minorities in the countries that surround Hungary — Romania, Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia and the Soviet Union.

As Hungary scraps Communism in favour of Western-style democracy, it is likely to become more of a magnet for Hungarians outside, particularly the two million living under hard-line Communist rule in Romania.

Already Hungary, newly accountable to popular feeling at home, has accepted some 20,000 Romanian citizens as political refugees.

But, analysts say, the issue could unite Romania and Czechoslovakia, both deeply disturbed by the changes under way in Budapest, to make common cause against Hungary.

The Eastern Bloc's other leading reformer, Poland, also faces ethnic problems to both east and west, stemming from the general westward shift of frontiers after World War II.

The Polish public is increasingly interested in the lot of some 1.2 million Poles now living in the Soviet Union.

The new, non-Communist government in Warsaw has been in dispute with West Germany in recent weeks over an ethnic German minority which Bonn says still exists in Poland, especially the former German region of Silesia.

A visit to Poland by West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl this week — intended to seal a post-war reconciliation — had to be preceded by delicate negotiations over the rights of this minority and over Kohl's itinerary in Silesia.

Further to the south, Bulgaria faced a crisis this summer over ethnic Turks who make up about one-tenth of its population.

More than 300,000 fled to Turkey to escape what they called a forced assimilation campaign in Bulgaria, threatening serious damage to the Bulgarian economy.

Politics and dust: Prime minister versus Mahatma's grandson

By Earleen Fisher

The Associated Press

AMETHI, India — Rajiv Gandhi, the prime minister, lands outside a big town, the clatter and whir of his helicopter's rotor blades churning up reminders of the power and money he has pumped into his electoral district.

Raj Mohan Gandhi, grandson of India's beloved independence leader Mohandas K. Gandhi, bumps down disintegrating dirt lanes in a venerable white sedan, telling villagers barely touched by the 20th century why they should vote for him instead of Rajiv.

It's an uphill battle for the 54-year-old writer and political novice, who is not related to the prime minister.

Most of the people in the Amethi parliamentary district are poor, many are illiterate, but they know the power of the office of prime minister. And even if Raj Mohan Gandhi defeats Rajiv Gandhi in this month's election, Raj Mohan will be just another member of parliament and not the prime minister.

Still, there are rumblings of discontent. Despite impressive construction boom in towns in Amethi and Gauriganj since the last elections in 1984, there are villages a few miles away where people wonder why they, too, do not yet have electricity.

Across the road from a modern steel plant, farmers ask why labourers were imported from other states to do jobs they say had been promised to their sons.

In the larger towns, unem-

ployed young men with high school educations and engineering degrees talk about corruption and the Bofors arms scandal that has dogged the administration of Rajiv Gandhi, the grandson of Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru and son of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi.

In Jais and Gauriganj, towns of several thousand people on a narrow but well-maintained blacktop road, it's hard to believe anyone except Rajiv Gandhi is really running for the seat he has held since 1981. Posters with his portrait are plastered on shops and hang from lightposts.

In a 10-hour drive through the Amethi constituency barely two weeks before the election that starts Nov. 22 and ends Nov. 26, not a single portrait of Raj Mohan Gandhi was spotted. The solid green banners of the Janata Dal party he represents were seldom seen outside Amethi town.

Raj Mohan Gandhi has an answer for this. In Misrauli, about 12 kilometres north of Amethi, he tells villagers: "Each Rajiv Gandhi poster costs 10 rupees (62 cents). For that, you could feed your families today."

His listeners nod in agreement and say they'll vote for him. He drives through Khushiyal village a few miles away on an axle-shaking, broken dirt track and doesn't stop. But in his wake the inhabitants of the mud and thatch houses say they, too, will vote for this tall, slim, scholarly-looking man.

Saushi Tiwari, a white-bearded man who says he is about 55 but

looks older, explains: "The main point is electricity. We have none. We have given an application, but there is no response."

In the background, women from this village of 50 families clamor against the Congress Party, unusual in a region where politics traditionally are left to men. "Sugar now costs 14 rupees (84 cents) a kilo," says one woman in a green sari, waving her forefinger.

Back in Amethi town, which has a population of about 20,000, Rajiv Gandhi warns the 5,000 people who have been herded beside wooden barriers in a school lot, "the opposition will hamper the progress of Amethi."

Amethi has indeed made progress. In 1980, only 330 of the 1,299 bigger villages had electricity. Today, 1,254 have electricity.

In 1980, the district had 422 kilometres of paved roads. Today, it has 1,150 kilometres.

Paved roads may be less than essential in a region where virtually the only automobiles belong to government officials and political parties. But the number of bicycles has skyrocketed.

Roads that seldom held little more than bullock carts during the 1984 campaign are now jammed with bicycles, and even an occasional motor scooter, as men head home from jobs in the bigger towns at sundown.

But not everyone has a job. In Sarwanpur on the outskirts of Amethi, Mohammad Aftab Akhtar says he'll vote for Raj Mohan Gandhi and the opposition. "I am an engineer, but I can't get a job."

His neighbour's nod in agreement. When asked why they oppose Rajiv Gandhi, they burst into a chorus: "Bofors, Bofors, Bofors."

The Janata Dal's top national leader, Vishwanath Pratap Singh, and leading Indian newspapers have challenged Gandhi's denials that no Indians received kickbacks in a 1986 contract to buy artillery from Bofors, a Swedish arms manufacturer.

Near Gauriganj, a score of Muslim farmers are unhappy with the governing Congress Party but say they'll probably vote for it anyway.

Gesturing at the big Usha steel galvanizing plant across the road, gray-bearded Juman Khan says, "they gave us money for our land and they promised to employ our sons, but all our people are jobless and most of our land is gone."

Satish Sharma, Rajiv Gandhi's point man in the Amethi district and an ex-airline pilot like the prime minister, says later: "Every new industry, every project that is set up, they try to give the highest (job) priority to the land losers, but there are some categories of people who have no skills."

So why do these farmers and their jobless sons say they'll probably vote for Rajiv Gandhi anyway?

"The last time we voted for the opposition (in 1977), they couldn't succeed and fought each other, and the government fell apart," Khan said. "Congress is always one party. The others fall apart."

Worker power, party power, people power

By Colin McIntyre

Reuters

VIENNA — In Poland last August "worker power" broke a 40-year Communist stranglehold. In Hungary last month, it was "party power."

This week in East Germany, it was "people power." In each country, one of three main options for bringing about radical political change after four decades of monolithic Communist Party rule came into play.

The Polish Communists were driven out of power by Solidarity, the upstart free trade union born out of a workers' strike in 1980, in a stunning election victory. Reminding the new government of its roots, Solidarity leader Lech Walesa said it could build a Poland of "more bread and smiles" but — only with the firm support of the workers.

In Hungary, it was the Communist Party itself that took the initiative as it voted to dissolve itself and re-form as a democratic organisation ready to fight for its political life in free elections expected by the middle of next year.

The East German leadership fell in the face of sheer pressure from the streets as hundreds of thousands marched to demand reforms, and tens of thousands fled the country because they had lost hope they would ever come.

However in Prague and Sofia, there are stirrings in the streets and occasional hints of movement from the party leadership, indicating that changes could come, though more slowly.

Only in hard-line Romania, increasingly isolated in both East and West because of its ultra-orthodox Communist system and poor human rights record, is there no sign of any change.

President Nicolae Ceausescu, who has ruled with an iron fist since taking power in 1965, said recently he would adopt reforms similar to those in Hungary and in Warsaw "only when the beech tree bears apples, and the reed bears flowers."

In Prague, the conservative leadership still haunted by the 1968 Warsaw Pact invasion which put them in power has shown no sign of following the sort of radical reforms that its colleagues introduced voluntarily in Hungary and under pressure in Poland.

The Charter 77 Human Rights Movement, the main dissident group, has not succeeded in widening its base much beyond the 1,000 or so signatories, mainly intellectuals.

While some 10,000 people staged a pro-democracy rally in Prague last month, it was a drop in the ocean compared to the hundreds of thousands who took to the streets in East Germany.

However a petition demanding dialogue with the government has been signed by 35,000 people and establishment figures are beginning to speak out against official policy, prompting one Western diplomat to say: "One can't talk about a revolution yet, but if you put all this together the whole building is starting to shake."

Bulgaria, once dismissed as an orthodox Communist backwater, has also begun to stir as fledgling opposition groups emerged from obscurity under the protection of a three-week international ecology forum in Sofia.

Cambodia: The obstacles to peace

By Christophe Peschoux

Following is the first of a two-part series on Cambodia, the actors in the drama, and the fledgling Hun Sen government's efforts to rebuild a country. Christophe Peschoux, a 31-year-old French writer, just returned from a visit to Cambodia where he travelled as a member of a private international commission investigating the political and social situation. Starting as a volunteer worker in refugee camps in Thailand 10 years ago, Peschoux has followed closely developments in Indochina.

PHNOM PENH — Despite its failure the international conference on Cambodia held in Paris this summer served one purpose: to highlight the major obstacles to peace. It now appears that there can be no peace without China, and none that would involve the China-backed Khmer Rouge whose authoritarian regime murdered about a quarter of the Cambodian population when it held power from 1975 to 1978. Though it operated with great discretion at the conference, China was calling the shots, using as intermediaries its protégés — former ruler Prince Sihanouk, and the Khmer Rouge who emerged as surprisingly dynamic at the conference table. "They ran their business extremely efficiently, one delegate commented, 'they had diplomats all over the place, contacted everyone, tried to charm and most of all, to torpedo any kind of peace plan that kept them out.'"

The Khmer Rouge line in Paris was to stand by the five-point peace plan put forward by Prince Sihanouk and approved by China and the ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) countries. The plan provides for the establishment of a quadripartite national union government in Phnom Penh that would include the three factions of the Cambodian resistance (a coalition officially recognised by the United Nations as representing Cambodia) and the current government installed by the Vietnamese 10 years ago.

China's power in the region lies not only on its size and history

but also in the fact that several million Chinese live in the neighbouring countries where they often wield a great deal of financial power. Although Western foreign ministers had all declared "that they were freezing high-level contacts with China (after the Tiananmen Square events this spring), they were the ones who asked to see me," the Chinese foreign minister proudly observed in Paris during the conference.

To ensure Chinese support, the future regime in Cambodia will have to provide Beijing with serious guarantees against any spread of Vietnamese influence beyond its borders. Owing to its

relationship with the Soviet Union, Vietnam is perceived as a security threat by the Chinese, who rely on the Khmer Rouge to block the way. Meanwhile on the Western front, ambiguity prevails: at the conference U.S. Secretary of State James Baker stated that "the Khmer Rouge should play no role in Cambodia's future. The United States will support Prince Sihanouk if he deems it necessary to accept the inclusion of all the Cambodian factions in an interim coalition... The strength of U.S. support for any Cambodian government, however, will be inversely proportionate to the extent of the Khmer Rouge participation, if any... There must be safeguards that Pol Pot or any other Khmer Rouge leader responsible for mass murders will never be able to rule again."

Cambodia's Prime Minister Hun Sen was unequivocal: "Some people think that we want to exclude only the Khmer Rouge army and that we would accept a Khmer Rouge party; they are mistaken! We want them totally and finally excluded, politically and militarily, otherwise there can be no agreement."

The Killing Fields
The British filmmaker Ro-

land Joffe who presented his film "The Killing Fields" for the first time in Phnom Penh in August commented: "Making space for the Khmer Rouge is like trying to have a relationship with a cobra."

"It will take 50 years, or two generations to rebuild Cambodia," predicts Patrick van de Velde at the Bangkok bureau of the United Nations organisation helping refugees. "The refugee population (about 250,000) in the camps on the Thai border is so vulnerable and so little educated that it cannot participate in the reconstruction."

On the international scene, while China is playing for time, Vietnam can hardly afford this luxury; it is running out of steam. For the past two years it has been struggling with much-needed economic reforms and has tried to break the quarantine it was forced into in 1975 when a hard-line communist regime took over — a situation aggravated when Vietnam invaded Cambodia four years later.

One of Vietnam's main concern is to rebuild bridges with Washington, another is to ease tensions with China. At least three Chinese-Vietnamese meetings have been convened over the past few months, and Hanoi has asked France to continue its diplomatic

effort and hold another international peace conference. There is also a possibility that a conference will be held in Bangkok before the end of the year.

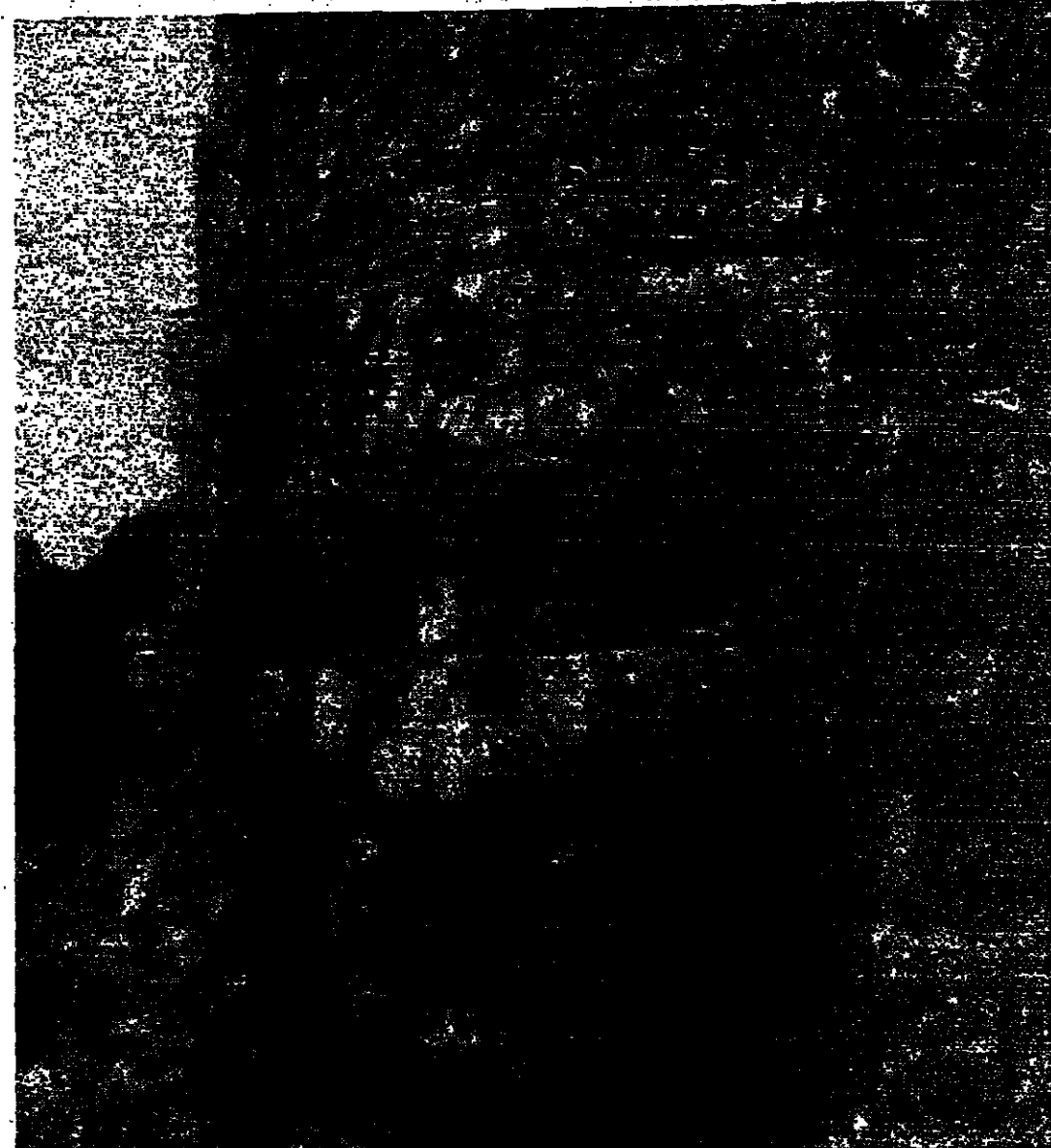
With the official pull-out of the last Vietnamese troops from Cambodia in September, the resistance has intensified fighting against the Phnom Penh army of 35,000. Superior in training and weaponry to the other resistance forces, the estimated 30,000 Khmer Rouge troops spearheaded the action, especially in the Pailin region — an area rich in precious stones (mostly rubies and sapphires) which could provide a vital source of cash to the guerrillas.

Resistance

The resistance operates from the refugee camps on the Thai border, but Thailand is now seeking to improve its relations with neighbours in Indochina, hoping to "turn the battlefield into a market," says the Thai prime minister. Under pressure from all sides, Thailand is striving to maintain a delicate balance between reducing the military threat along its borders, and normalising relations with its Vietnamese-influenced neighbours without provoking hostility from China. Traditionally pro-Western, Thailand is now seeking increased support from Western Europe.

In response to the Cambodian resistance's call to arms after the Paris conference, Prime Minister Hun Sen urged: "Cambodia needs peace, we must achieve reconciliation."

Easier said than done, especially since there was no U.N.-sponsored monitoring of the Vietnamese withdrawal. Independent observers from several nations, including India, accompanied by some 300 journalists, witnessed what was presented as the withdrawal of the last Vietnamese contingent on Cambodian soil this September, but China promptly accused the Vietnamese of stationing another 30,000 men in Cambodia, this justifying continued Chinese aid to the Khmer Rouge, mostly in the form of weapons.



A detail from the temple of Angkor Wat in Cambodia, now lost in the jungle, the temple was built in the 11th century in what was then one of the most magnificent cities in all Asia.



Threatened by war, theft and vandals, the magnificent Angkor Wat temple is a symbol of the Cambodians' struggle to survive the hardships of the past two decades.

Refugees and migrants just keep on leaving the GDR

By Kurt Pleyer

ONE inhabitant in four has left East Germany since 1949 Bonn BORN (Dad) — The photos of GDR refugees heading for the West that have gone round the world since August call to mind the migration of the peoples in immediate post-war Europe. Tens of thousands of East Germans have left their homes, friends and jobs in recent weeks to start from scratch in the Federal Republic of Germany. This influx of refugees is not just a matter of individual lives by the thousand; it is also an accusation levelled at a political system that for decades has ruled out any sensible dialogue with its citizens and is only now, or so it seems, prepared to consider a few reforms.

Since it was founded 40 years ago roughly four million people have left the second German state, successor to the Soviet zone of occupation. Since June 17 1953 and the first full-scale uprising by people in the GDR three million have headed west for the Federal

Republic of Germany. In other words, nearly one East German in five has left the GDR since that dramatic summer 36 years ago. Not even the building of the Berlin Wall on 13 August 1961 succeeded in calling this exodus to a halt. Between Aug. 14 and December 31 1961 over 50,000 people managed to escape to the West, and even in the years that followed, refugees continued to escape, their numbers ranging from 42,000 in 1963 to just 11,000 in 1983. They risked life and limb by scaling the Wall and barbed-wire emplacements and by crawling along tunnels they dug beneath the Iron Curtain to freedom. Their escape routes ranged from the fuel tanks of commercial vehicles to home-made hot-air balloons, from the River Elbe to the Baltic, crossed in tiny boats or rubber dinghies.

Throughout this period there was an official migrant for every other refugee who escaped from the GDR by risking life and limb and by using the most adventurous means. Migrants in this context are Germans officially permitted by the East German authorities to move to the Federal Republic of Germany or Berlin (West), usually to join close relatives and members of their family. People of pensionable age have always been allowed to leave the GDR for good.

The past few weeks have shown how keen the desire for freedom still is in the GDR, especially among young and active people. Since Hungary opened its border with Austria in August, over 50,000 GDR citizens have headed west, aided and encouraged by the understanding shown and the humanitarian attitude adopted by the Hungarian and Polish authorities.

Many first sought refuge in the Federal Republic of Germany's embassies in Budapest, Warsaw and Prague. They are far from the end of the matter.

— German features.



Africa's AIDS 'out of control'

ISSUES of vital importance to Africa's future dominated two recent but markedly different international conferences.

Few will now be unaware that the Southern Africa, and especially the elimination of apartheid, loomed large at the 49-nation Commonwealth summit, held in the Malaysian capital, Kuala Lumpur.

Far less attention appears to have been accorded by the international community to a gathering of experts concerned with a tragedy that is steadily engulfing the whole of Africa.

Several hundred AIDS experts attended a three-day meeting in Marseilles with the realisation that this 20th century plague is now running out of control in Africa. It is generally agreed that for the world's poorest continent it poses far greater threat than even its recurring famines.

According to the World Health Organisation (WHO), which is leading the global battle against the incurable disease, AIDS is present in 48 African countries. Up to three million men, women and children there are estimated to be infected with the human

immuno-deficiency virus.

This could represent as much as a half the world total. But as the WHO admits, no one can really gauge the true extent of the epidemic, especially as several years can elapse between infection and the onset of full-blown AIDS.

What the United Nations' agency fears is that current figures may prove to be serious underestimations, particularly in the case of Africa.

Dr. Jonathan Mann, who directs the WHO's anti-AIDS programme, has warned about the impact of the killer disease there. As the keynote speaker at the Marseilles conference, his view is that Africa faces a health crisis that requires a huge effort to "prevent a very bad situation becoming a great deal worse."

As AIDS is striking at the most important age range, there are fears that it could undermine the socio-economic structures in the worst affected countries.

The situation is summed up by Kenya's Health Minister, Mwai Kibaki, who has said: "The disease is killing the best in our midst. It is taking the people aged

between 16 and 49, the most productive part of our population."

From Kenya in the east to the Cote d'Ivoire in the west, and from Algeria in the north to Zimbabwe in the south, the picture is increasingly bleak.

In some areas of Uganda and neighbouring Zaire, it is believed that as many as one adult in four is infected, while one baby in five is born with the virus. Elsewhere in Central Africa, such as Rwanda, about one in three of the population in some districts is thought to be HIV-positive.

As was pointed out at the Marseilles conference, there are some puzzling aspects to the epidemic. For instance, why has the virus taken such a hold in the Cote d'Ivoire, but not in Ghana or Nigeria?

Another feature of the mosaic is that in some countries most of those infected are men while in others they are predominantly women. Speakers wondered whether such unanswered questions could be crucial to a greater understanding of the AIDS problem.

— Lions features.

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TOYS

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(Jordan Express won penalty shot tie-breaker).

JUNIORS

Pepsi (1) vs Apple (0)

MIDS

Danish Dairy (5) vs Westinghouse (0)

SENIORS

Nash-Ebb (4) vs Cairo Amman Bank (0)

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
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SPOT THE WAY TO WIN

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ 9 2
♥ Q J 10 5
♦ A 5 3 2
♣ 9 5 4WEST
♠ J 8 7 4
♥ K 9 8 4
♦ J 9 6
♣ 10 6EAST
♠ Q 10 5
♥ A 7 6 2
♦ 10 7
♣ Q J 8 7SOUTH
♠ A K 6 3
♥ 3
♦ K Q 8 4
♣ A K 3 2The bidding:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♣ Pass
2 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass
3 NT Pass 3 NT PassOpening lead: Ten of ♠.
When you have all the tricks in a suit, it usually makes no difference how you play your spotcards. But when entries are scarce, you must handle card combinations with care.

Despite his powerful hand, South did no more than rebid one spade because he had only five sure winners and the hand might have been a misfit. However, when South received a diamond preference, which revealed a possible source of tricks, he bounced into the no trump game. (Three clubs is an attractive alterna-

five, and would have led to the same contract.)
Declarer won the first club and considered alternatives. If diamonds were 3-2, there were eight fast tricks. There is not for the opening lead, which had to be from shortness since the nine was in dummy, the club suit might have offered some hope of setting up a ninth. Under the circumstances, however, that trick would have to come from hearts.

But that presented a problem. Two entries would be needed to set up and cash a heart trick, and there was only one in plain view. However, declarer had no difficulty in unearthing a second.

At trick two, South immediately led the singleton heart. West grabbed the king to continue with a club, won by declarer. When both defenders followed to the king and queen of diamonds, the contract became a sure bet.

Declarer carefully led the eight of diamonds to the ace, then continued with the queen of hearts. East took the ace and cashed two club tricks, but that was all for the defense. Declarer won the spade return in hand, overtook the four of diamonds with dummy's five, and the rest of the tricks were there for the taking.



Salmon, caviar, tango and Maradona

Soccer superstar Diego Maradona, 29, dazzled wedding of the decade" after his marriage to more than 1,200 guests on Tuesday in Buenos Aires with a bash billed by the Argentine press as "the Claudia Villafane, 28.

Navratilova pulls out of Chicago tournament

CHICAGO (AP) — Top seeded Martina Navratilova withdrew from the Virginia Slims of Chicago tennis tournament on Friday after aggravating a groin injury.

Navratilova, ranked second in the world, was to meet unseeded Larisa Savchenko of the Soviet Union in an early evening quarterfinal match.

While no official statement was made by tournament directors,

Navratilova said she was not able to push off on either of her legs during a morning workout at a private tennis club.

Navratilova, who was born in Czechoslovakia and now lives in the United States, said the injury occurred in a match earlier in the tournament and was aggravated on Wednesday during her match against Donna Faber.

The 33-year-old defending champion was seeking her fourth straight Chicago crown and ninth since 1978.

Navratilova went right to bed, planning to remain there throughout the weekend.

She said she plans to go to New York next week, where she is second in Virginia Slims national championships.

Serena gives Italy 1-0 victory against Algeria

VICENZA, Italy (R) — Aldo Serena returned from injury to save the day for Italy Saturday, scoring in the 75th minute to give his team a 1-0 victory in a soccer friendly against Algeria.

Serena, top scorer for Inter Milan last season, found the net with his left foot just five minutes after coming on in a bid to help Italy find the finishing touch after 10 near misses.

Italy had dominated the match, the third in a series of friendlies in their World Cup warm-up season, but failed repeatedly to get

past Algeria's determined goalkeeper Hadi Larbi.

World Cup hopefuls Algeria, depleted by the absence of four French-based stalwarts, looked disorganized and uncertain in attack and only twice put keeper Walter Zenga to the test.

Italy's manager Azeglio Vicini had planned to rest key players such as Serena and AC Milan winger Roberto Donadoni on Saturday ahead of the side's tougher assignment against England next Wednesday.

But when star striker Gianluca

Viali and forwards Andrea Carnevale and Roberto Daggio failed to produce results, Vicini sent Donadoni on after halftime and substituted Carnevale with Serena.

Chelsea on top after 1-0 win

LONDON (R) — A 50th-minute goal by full back Steve Clarke gave Chelsea a 1-0 victory at Everton on Saturday to keep them top of the English first division.

Fellow-Londoners Arsenal, the champions, took sole possession of second place with a 2-1 win at Millwall as Liverpool crashed 3-2 at lowly Queen's Park Rangers and Aston Villa fell 2-0 at Norwich.

Chelsea have 25 points, one more than Arsenal on 24 and four more than Liverpool, Villa and Norwich, while Everton are a point further back on 20.

With Queen's Park Rangers' success over Liverpool, the four sides at the foot of the table all won.

Derby County routed Manchester City 6-0, Wimbledon beat Tottenham 1-0 and bottom-placed Sheffield Wednesday got their best result of the season, 3-0 at home to Charlton.

A hat-trick by John Colquhoun helped Hearts surge to the top of the Scottish premier division with a 6-3 triumph over Dundee in the only match in the top flight north of the border.

Chelsea, who went to the top a week ago when they beat Millwall 4-0 at home, rubbed salt in Everton's wound following the Liver-

pool side's 6-2 drubbing by Aston Villa last Sunday.

Arsenal's and Norwich's victories helped them get over their brawl at Highbury last week that earned a Football Association charge of bringing the game into disrepute.

England midfielder Michael Thomas put Arsenal in front after 16 minutes and Niall Quinn netted the winner in the 59th minute after Teddy Sheringham had equalised on the stroke of half-time.

Norwich, unbeaten at home but getting only their second win in seven matches at Carrow road, went ahead early in the second half when Villa defender Derek Mountfield sliced a dangerous cross from Mark Bowen into his own net. Andy Linington scored Norwich's second.

Queen's Park Rangers' player-manager Trevor Francis dropped Nigel Spackman after the former Liverpool midfielder had criticised his methods and managed Kenny Dalglish's side with his new sweeper system.

Welsh striker Ian Rush and his England counterpart Peter Beardsley were restricted by man-to-man marking. John Barnes was not so strictly policed and nearly spoiled Francis' plans as he hit back twice for Liverpool.

the first time with a penalty.

But after two first half goals from Paul Wright, the first a penalty, the second a free kick that swerved past Bruce Grobbelaar, Mark Falco, making his first full appearance of the season, struck the winner 10 minutes after the break. It was Rangers' first win in seven weeks.

Dean Saunders became the first division's top scorer with 11 goals as he contributed to Derby's half dozen with the two second half penalties. Barnes has nine goals, the same as Everton's Mike Newell and David Platt of Aston Villa.

Manchester City's poor defence showed just why they signed Colin Hendry from Blackburn Rovers this week and they will be wanting to field him as soon as possible.

Derby, who had previously scored 12 goals, increased their record by 50 per cent, while two goals by David Hirst and one from Dalian Atkinson doubled Sheffield Wednesday's tally in 13 matches from three to six.

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THE Daily Crossword by William Lutzewski

ACROSS
1 Nelson and Huxtable
5 Tread
10 Lament
14 Mrs. Knight?
15 Funny Lewis
16 Ireland
17 Incl. abbr.
18 Real life
19 Starboard
20 Singer Glen
22 Reese or Herman
24 On Earth
26 Conspire
28 Hol polio
29 Patron saint of music
30 A little woman
34 Allude
37 Gets word
38 Chain to a stem
40 Lunch favorite
42 Mini-quarrel
43 Author Louis
45 Kilda
47 SHAFEP sector
48 He knows his cat
52 Dear M
53 Utah's flower
54 Tending a.g.
55 Marine Corps base site
57 Macadamize
58 UCLA athlete
64 Reversed one
65 Finished
66 Nautical command
67 Wins Back
68 Half scores
69 Loom part
70 Famed G-man

DOWN
1 A Waugh
2 Facts and figures
3 Actor West
4 Graceland girls
5 Slanders
6 Our site
7 Fancy dance
8 Dictation finish
9 Bodoo yell
10 Proscribed ballets
11 Lined up
12 Escalate
13 Before high or hole
21 Tavern tipple
23 Delect.
24 Distinctly
25 Brawl
26 Chairperson's title
27 Chemical compound
28 Actress
30 Bodormere site
31 Teed off
32 Famous hotel
35 As a pig
36 TV Tarzan
39 Swizzle sticks
41 Bearing
44 Kin to PDQ
46 Autograph
49 Unvarying
51 Unquest
53 Ensemble
54 Defect
55 Possess
56 Smooth
57 Interrogative: abbr.
58 Bootless
59 Petrolman
60 Corrida
61 Corrida acclaim
63 Inlet

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

DOWN
1 A Waugh
2 Facts and figures
3 Actor West
4 Graceland girls
5 Slanders
6 Our site
7 Fancy dance
8 Dictation finish
9 Bodoo yell
10 Proscribed ballets
11 Lined up
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57 Interrogative: abbr.
58 Bootless
59 Petrolman
60 Corrida
61 Corrida acclaim
63 Inlet

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1989

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Today's excellent aspects combined with the full moon in Taurus offers great opportunities to solve any problem of a financial nature.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Don't be sensitive about accepting money from your family. You will need to sit away from home to get a good view.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) A little study will give you insight into financial affairs. Members of your family will go along with your practical plans.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) It is a very good time for you to make new friendships. Don't get involved in giving out details of your love life.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) You will have special charm to please your friends. A good day to be romantic but not overly affectionate.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Get good and experienced help to fix up needed repairs at your home. You and your attachment should now branch out socially.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) All kinds of interesting conditions can now take place at your residence. Accept an invitation you will now get from a charming lady.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Invite neighbours and relatives into your home. You can also have

some exciting voyages with your attachment.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Very articulate people should be encouraged to come into your home. You will at last be able to talk things with a friend.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) You and your attachment should entertain a delightful couple. You are certain about problems at home.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Mutual assistance by you and your family with jobs produces fine results. Express more tenderness to your attachment.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Listen to the many and varied opinions of your friends. Members of your own family far away should be entertained.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Don't let a friend keep you from carrying through with an important obligation. Take your attachment out for the evening.

Today's child: If your child were born today he or she will have unusual talents and a personality that is highly individualistic and not convertible to the norm. High placed persons will take a keen interest in this talented student and may assist them in attaining their goals.

"The stars impel, they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you.

TO THE BRAZILIAN COMMUNITY IN JORDAN

All Brazilian citizens who had been registered to vote in the forthcoming presidential elections are requested to report to the Brazilian Embassy on Wednesday, November 15th, from 08:00 a.m. to 05:00 p.m. to cast their votes.

The Brazilian Embassy also informs the general public that it will be closed on November 15 and 16, due to the elections and to the poll.

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Performances: 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30 p.m.

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NIJOUN
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PLAZA
TWINS
Performances: 12:30, 3:30, 6:45, 9:00

Dozens injured in Moldavian clashes

Kremlin orders 4 republics to drop controversial laws

MOSCOW (Agencies) — The Kremlin has declared that local laws passed by four restive Soviet republics are unconstitutional, state-run news media reported Saturday.

The Presidium of the Supreme Soviet legislature declared that laws in Azerbaijan and the Baltic republics of Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia "cannot have force on the territory of the republics, because they contradict the provisions of the national constitution," the Soviet News Agency TASS reported.

The presidium did not specify which laws were unconstitutional. But the four republics' parliaments have all passed laws declaring their "sovereignty," meaning they had the right to declare that laws passed in Moscow were invalid locally.

The Estonian parliament already had run afoul of the Kremlin twice with controversial laws, but the legislative conflicts have never led to showdowns.

Estonian lawmakers held fast to their sovereignty law late last year despite Kremlin objections, and the issue was never forced. This summer, the Estonian parliament backed down on a voting law that set residency requirements and led to strikes among Russian workers in the republic who complained many of them would lose the right to vote.

All four of the republics have popular movements that are

pushing for greater independence from Moscow.

TASS said the presidium cited Article 74 of the Soviet constitution, which states that when there is a conflict between national law and a republic's law, the national law prevails.

Presidium members "proposed" that the republics' parliaments take steps to bring their laws into compliance with the national constitution, TASS said.

In other action, the presidium approved a draft measure declaring the full exoneration of Soviet ethnic groups that were forcibly resettled under dictator Josef Stalin, Moscow Radio reported Saturday.

Stalin, accusing several ethnic groups of sympathizing or siding with the enemy during World War II, forcibly removed him-

drots of thousands of people from their homelands and settled them in less strategically important areas.

The Crimean Tatars and other groups have been agitating in recent years to be allowed to return to their historical homelands. So far, their requests for wholesale resettlement have been denied, at least in part because the lands have long since been taken over by other residents.

The radio report on the groups' political rehabilitation did not indicate whether it might lead to resettlement.

The presidium also decided to continue restoring citizenship to Soviets who were stripped of it over the last two decades because of emigration or statements they made while abroad, TASS said.

Aquino ends Washington visit

WASHINGTON (AP) — Philippine President Corason Aquino has completed a visit to Washington that produced pledges of economic support, but no outward sign that she will support continued U.S. use of military bases in her country.

Mrs. Aquino, accompanied by members of her cabinet and aides, left for Dallas, where she planned to resume what she has described as the main purpose of her mission to the United States — encouraging trade and investment needed for the Philippines' economic recovery.

The president's last official meeting was a 30-minute talk with U.S. Defense Secretary Richard Cheney, described by Cheney to reporters as "most pleasant."

Philippines Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus, who participated in the session with Cheney at a downtown hotel, said it was decided that exploratory talks on the military base issue will begin in Manila in mid-December.

He said whether the December talks lead to substantive negotiations on a new agreement on U.S. use of Philippine bases after the existing pact expires in 1991 depends on the results of the exploratory talks.

Manglapus, who will lead the Manila talks, echoed earlier Philippine statements here that Mrs. Aquino and her government want to start with exploratory meetings on the question of whether there is a genuine basis for negotiating continued U.S. use of Subic Bay Naval Station, Clark Field Air Base and four smaller installations in the islands.

President George Bush and administration officials, however, have voiced optimism that the process will lead to a new agreement, driven by the logic that the arrangement benefits both countries and the security of the entire East Asian region, as some put it.

Earlier Friday, Mrs. Aquino had breakfast with Vice President Dan Quayle and U.S.-backed Nicaraguan opposition candidate Violeta Chamorro.

The two women — both the wives of slain national leaders — discussed their common experiences in entering politics, said Carlos Lord, an aide to Quayle.

98% turnout expected in Namibian elections

WINDHOEK, Namibia (AP) — The possibly record-setting flood of voters ebbed to a trickle Saturday in elections that will bring independence to this South African-ruled territory.

More than 91 per cent of the 701,483 registered voters had cast their ballots by Friday night, and with one more day to go in the five-day polling, Namibian territorial officials said Saturday they expected a total voter turnout of 98 per cent.

The United Nations monitoring team believes "an all-time percentage poll record may be achieved for fully democratic elections here," spokesman Fred Eckhard said late Friday.

The final voter turnout was to be announced Sunday morning. Ballot counting begins Monday and results are expected Wednesday.

Some of the 350 polling stations in the vast, semi-desert

territory were idle Saturday morning, although people who had not been able to take off work to vote during the week were expected to arrive before the scheduled 7 p.m. (1500 GMT) poll closing time.

Officials said the polls would stay open until everyone in line had voted. Earlier, fines had stretched as much as a mile.

Voters were choosing a 72-member assembly that will write a constitution and declare the end of 74 years of South African rule. The 10 parties running will receive seats in the assembly proportionally according to the percentage of the votes they garner.

The South-West African Peoples Organisation, which fought a 23-year guerrilla war against South African rule, is expected to get the most votes, but it is unclear whether it will receive the two-thirds majority needed to write a constitution without consulting the other parties.

Managua, contras make progress towards truce

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — The Nicaraguan government and the rebels fighting to overthrow it have made progress toward restoring a truce and allowing the guerrillas to return home under a Central American peace accord, say officials.

But in Managua, the government and the rebels, known as contras, accused each other Friday of launching recent attacks in the 8-year-old civil war that has killed an estimated 12,000 people.

A rebel radio broadcast said Sandinista troops "continue bombarding the civilian population in Jinotega Province" in northern Nicaragua, but the report provided no details of casualties.

The Nicaraguan Defence Ministry said rebel forces this week attacked trucks carrying government troops, killing two soldiers and injuring seven.

Last week, Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega cancelled a 19-month de facto ceasefire, saying contra raids were endangering a campaign before national elections scheduled Feb. 25. The contras deny ordering the attacks.

On Thursday and Friday at U.N. headquarters in New York, representatives of both sides held their first face-to-face peace talks

in more than a year. After rejecting each other's opening proposals Thursday, officials said, the two sides began making progress toward restoring the ceasefire.

Peace talks will resume Monday in Washington at the headquarters of the Organisation of American States (OAS), said U.N. spokesman Juan Carlos Brandt.

Brandt said progress was being made on the ruling Sandinista's demand for an agreement by the contras to disband, and on rebel demands for a truce and an amnesty allowing them to return to Nicaragua without being imprisoned or fired upon.

"I think we were able to find some coincidence" of views, said the chief Nicaraguan negotiator, Deputy Foreign Minister Victor Hugo Tinoco.

"Next week in Washington we are going to continue those discussions, and we hope we will be able to get a sound agreement that will incorporate the demobilisation and the ceasefire," he told reporters.

The U.N.-OAS-mediated talks recessed as the parties discussed the toughest issue — whether the contras would commit to a timetable for disbanding as part of a package deal including a ceasefire and amnesty.

5 die in fresh Indian religious violence

NEW DELHI (AP) — A new outbreak of sectarian violence near the remote eastern town of Bhagalpur has left at least five people dead, news reports said Saturday.

Press Trust of India news agency reported that mobs attacked four villages near the town Friday, burning more than 100 huts and killing five people.

At least 200 people died in fighting between Hindus and Muslims in the region last month.

Indian news media rarely identify the perpetrators or victims of religious violence, but journalists who visited the area said most of those killed have been Muslims.

Bhagalpur, in the state of Bihar, is about 1,025 kilometres southeast of New Delhi. Fighting broke out in the region on Oct. 24 after militant Hindus organised processions celebrating the building of a temple at a site in

neighbouring Uttar Pradesh state. The site is claimed by followers of both faiths.

The foundation stone for the temple was laid Thursday, amid fears that it would lead to widespread violence. The ceremony passed peacefully, however.

The temple site at the town of Ayodhya, 525 kilometres south east of New Delhi, is claimed by Hindus to be the birthplace of Lord Ram, an incarnation of one of the supreme trinity of Hindu gods.

Muslims say a shrine on the site is the Babri Masjid, a mosque to the Moghul Emperor Babar.

Muslims form 11 per cent of India's 880 million people, and Hindus make up 82 per cent of the population.

Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto has described the plans to build the temple at a controversial site as wilful de-

secration.

"This step is a wilful desecration of an Islamic holy place and arouses the deepest resentment among Muslims all over the world," she said in a statement Friday.

It was her first comment on an issue that could cost Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi crucial Muslim votes in this month's general elections.

Bhutto said Islamic Pakistan's policy was not to interfere in the internal affairs of other states. "However the developments in the Babri Masjid issue are a matter of deepest concern for Muslims both inside and outside India."

"The people of Pakistan share the anguish which these developments have caused to their Muslim brethren worldwide."

Bhutto said it was the Indian government's responsibility "to

take effective steps to put an end to communal killing and to ensure that the Muslims in India are provided full security of life and property and that the sentiments of the Islamic Ummah (nation) are respected."

In a separate development, Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's government, fearing defeat in this month's parliamentary elections, has started destroying sensitive files, India's main opposition party said Friday.

"We have reliable information that governmental agencies are destroying sensitive records because Rajiv Gandhi's government is sure of being voted out of power," opposition Janata Dal spokesman Yashwant Sinha told reporters.

Sinha refused to disclose the source of his information or the contents of the documents marked for destruction.

Police battle protesters in S. Korean campus

SEOUL (R) — South Korean police fought pitched battles with anti-government demonstrators on the campus of Korea University in Seoul Saturday.

Hundreds of riot police in combat fatigues and helmets stormed the campus and fired tear gas to disperse more than 1,000 students, teachers and dissidents before a rally called to protest against suppression of human rights and trade unions.

Witnesses said protesters pelted police with petrol bombs and stones as they fled to campus buildings.

State radio said more than 20 protesters and police were injured during the battle which lasted for several hours. There were no immediate reports of arrests.

A visiting United States Human Rights delegation led by the daughter of the late Senator

Robert Kennedy earlier called for the repeal of a national security law which it said authorities use against freedom of expression and assembly.

The law provides for heavy penalties, in some cases death, for activities favouring Communist North Korea.

Kerry Kennedy of the Robert F. Kennedy Centre for Human Rights said her group was concerned the law was used to im-

prison dissenters who then faced excessive force and torture despite promises by President Roh Tae-woo to end brutality.

"Use of excessive force against suspects during interrogation is another concern. In the all cases that the delegation examined, there were allegations of brutal beating, sleep deprivation and humiliation during interrogation," Kennedy said in a statement.

WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

Bhutto sacks troubled minister

ISLAMABAD (AP) — Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto Saturday sacked a cabinet minister implicated in a murder case and replaced him with a former opponent of her Pakistan People's Party government. Her office made no comment on the change, but an aide said it was part of a cabinet reshuffle expected since Ms. Bhutto survived a parliamentary no-confidence motion on Nov. 1. "This is not the reshuffle as such, but part of it," said the aide. He asked not to be identified by name. President Ghulam Ishaq Khan administered the oath of office on Saturday to Ghulam Mohammad Maneka as minister of manpower and overseas Pakistanis, according to an official announcement. Maneka's deputy, Makhdoom Alam Anwar, also was sworn in along with Ghulam Akbar Lasi as deputy minister of labour. Maneka replaces Mukhtar Awan, who is sought in Punjab province on charges of conspiracy in connection with the murder of two right-wing students in Mukhtar's hometown of Multan last July. Awan has remained in Ms. Bhutto's home province of Sindh since the Punjab warrant was issued Aug. 25.

Militants destroy Sri Lankan distillery

COLOMBO (AP) — Suspected Sinhalese militants Saturday set fire to an orchid nursery and the nation's largest distillery, military officials said. In other violence linked to the radical Sinhalese uprising, at least 12 people were killed across the island nation Friday and Saturday, said officials, who cannot be identified under briefing rules. The officials said 30 suspected militants set fire to vats at Rockland Distilleries Ltd. in Beruwala, 52 kilometres south of Colombo. The extent of damage was not immediately known, they said.

17 killed by Peruvian rebels

LIMA (AP) — Maoist guerrillas trying to disrupt local elections this weekend blew up power lines and attacked troops and civilians, and 17 people were killed, police has said. Among those killed in the attacks late Thursday and Friday were seven local officials and candidates. That raised to more than 125 the number of officials and candidates assassinated by the Shining Path rebels this year. The government says more than 15,000 people have been killed in political violence since the Shining Path launched their insurgency in 1980, and the increasing tempo of attacks have been denounced by all political parties. Thousands marched in Lima on Nov. 3 for peace. Police said rebels fatally shot an election board official, a town council officer and three council candidates Friday in Pisco, 250 kilometres southeast of Lima. They killed a policeman and his wife Friday morning in Tarma, 150 kilometres east of Lima, police said.

Uganda university closed

KAMPALA, Uganda (AP) — Officials closed Uganda's main Makerere University after a 12-day strike because of the "spoils students' arrogant behaviour," the official radio reported Saturday. "The students refused to go to classes, in spite of the fact that various meetings with government officials had taken place," the state-owned Radio Uganda said, quoting a government statement. Vice Chancellor George Kirya ordered an indefinite closure shortly after noon Friday, following a morning meeting with representatives of the 7,000 students at Makerere University campus. The closure came a day after the students rejected

President Yoweri Museveni's verbal assurance Thursday that some government allowances withdrawn in July would be reinstated. Museveni, who also serves as the university's chancellor, told the students to go back to classes while negotiations over books and travel allowances continued.

Hammer admitted to hospital

LOS ANGELES (R) — Armand Hammer, the 91-year-old American oil tycoon who has maintained ties with the Soviet Union since the days of Lenin, has been admitted to a Los Angeles hospital, but the hospital would not give details about his condition or say when he was admitted. "Armand Hammer is here, but we have no statement on his condition yet," UCLA Medical Centre spokesman Vicki Beck said Friday. Hammer, who is chairman of Occidental Petroleum, missed a speech before Los Angeles Security Analysts Thursday, and the company said it was because of recurrent pain from a rib injury. The company, where Hammer has been chairman and chief executive officer since 1957, had no immediate comment.

WHO reports 134 deaths from plague

GENEVA (AP) — The plague has resurged among humans in Africa, pushing the number of worldwide cases to 1,363 last year and causing 134 deaths, the World Health Organisation (WHO) has said. A report from the U.N. agency said the Central African nations of Zaire and Tanzania accounted for three-fourths of all cases of the contagious disease, usually carried by fleas from infected rats. Other outbreaks occurred in Africa's Indian Ocean island of Madagascar, and in the United States, Bolivia, Peru, Brazil, Vietnam and China, according to the WHO weekly epidemiological report.

Pope visits exhibit of Russian icons

VATICAN CITY (AP) — Pope John Paul II has inaugurated the first exhibit of Russian religious art at the Vatican, saying the icons symbolised the roots of Christianity in the Soviet Union and the rest of Europe. The Pope was given a tour of the exhibit of 107 medieval works by J.S. Meliev, minister of culture for the Russian Republic. Meliev noted that the exhibit comes "on the eve of an historic meeting" referring to the Pope's scheduled audience with Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev during his Nov. 29-Dec. 1 visit to Italy. Pope John Paul nodded and smiled at the remark. In his speech, the Pope said the Russian exhibit and the art of icons in general underline the church's desire for unity of the Eastern and Western churches.

Radiation not linked to leukemia

LONDON (AP) — Increases in leukemia among young people living near nuclear plants are not caused by exposure to radiation, said a study released Friday. Researchers found that death rates from leukemia and Hodgkin's disease among young people were about as high in areas that were only considered for nuclear plants as in areas that actually contained nuclear plants. Hodgkin's disease is a cancer of the lymph glands. Researchers said it has never been linked to radiation exposure. The cause of heightened cancer rates found in the study remains a mystery. But the researchers said their findings indicate an increased risk of leukemia is not associated with exposure to radiation, with the possible exception of the Sellafield nuclear reprocessing plant on England's north west coast.

THE Sunday Crossword

Edited by Mark Ettemo

Supernatives
By N.F. Wilkinson

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- 2 Short cut
- 3 Supply
- 4 Celebration
- 5 Excessive
- 6 Senseless
- 7 Word of mouth?
- 8 Ward off
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Diagrams

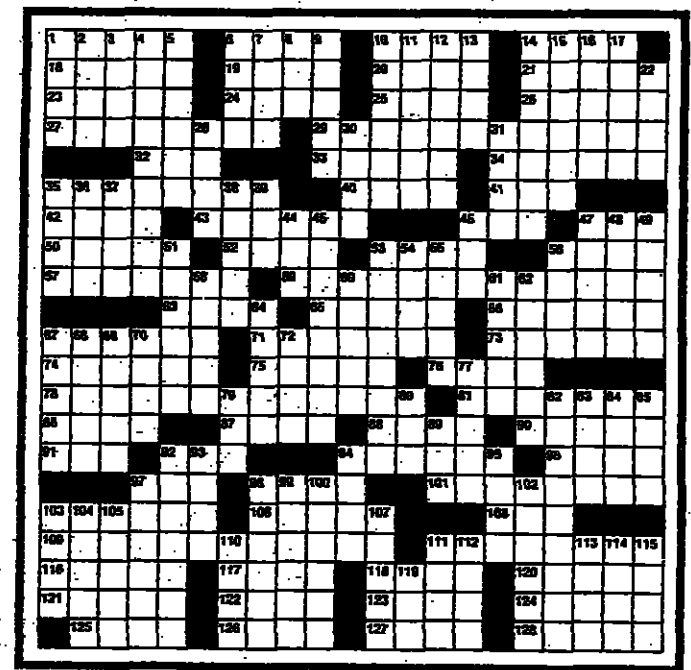
10-19, By Frances Burton

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1. Just prim facts are found in an encyclopedia, while sage judgments may lie elsewhere.
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